

# THE READER

A REVIEW OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

No. 113, Vol. V.

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JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Secretary.

**ROYAL INSTITUTION of GREAT**  
BRITAIN, Albemarle Street, W.—Feb. 25, 1865.—  
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Letters addressed to either of the undersigned will meet with due attention.  
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THOS. BREWER, Hon. Sec. Sacred Harmonic Society.

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# THE READER.

25 FEBRUARY, 1865.

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8. When used in shells instead of gunpowder, one-third of the weight of the latter produces double the explosive force.

### FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING AND MINING.

9. A charge of Gun Cotton of given size exerts double the explosive force of gunpowder.
10. It may be so used as, in its explosion, to reduce the rock to much smaller pieces than gunpowder, and so facilitate its removal.
11. Producing no smoke, the work can proceed much more rapidly, and with less injury to health.
12. In working coal mines, bringing down much larger quantities with a given charge, and absence of smoke, enable a much greater quantity of work to be done in a given time at a given cost.
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15. The peculiar local action of Gun Cotton enables the engineer to destroy and remove submarine stones and rocks without the preliminary delay and expense of boring chambers for the charge.

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16. The weight of Gun Cotton is only one-sixth that of gunpowder.
17. Its peculiar localised action enables the engineer to destroy bridges and palisades, and to remove every kind of obstacle with great facility.
18. For submarine explosion, either in attack or defence, it has the advantage of a much wider range of destructive power than gunpowder.
19. For the same purpose. From its lightness it has the advantage of keeping afloat the water-tight case in which it is contained, while gunpowder sinks it to the bottom.

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20. Where guns are close together, as in the batteries of ships and casemated forts, the absence of smoke removes the great evil of the firing of one gun impeding the aim of the next, and thus Gun Cotton facilitates rapid firing.
21. Between decks, also, the absence of smoke allows continuous rapid firing to be maintained. The absence of fouling and of heating is equally advantageous for naval as for military artillery.

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Carvers, Joint, per pair	5 0	5 0	5 6	6 6	7 6	8 9	11

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Table Forks.	31 0	38	44	56	54	64	56
Dessert Forks.	23 0	29	32	40	37	46	40
Dessert Spoons.	24 0	30	32	42	37	48	42
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# THE READER.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1865.

## THE ENGLISH LIFE TABLE.

IN proportion to the large and increasing numbers of those who, in the course of their lives, avail themselves of LIFE INSURANCE in one or other of its varied forms, it is surprising how few take the trouble to become acquainted, even in the least degree, with the principles upon which such important transactions are based.

To the majority, insurance is a simple thing enough. The choice of an office is usually decided either by the recommendation of a friend or the solicitation of an agent; the proposal is made and accepted; the stipulated premiums have to be paid at the proper intervals; and when death happens the amount will, as a matter of course, be forthcoming. What more is necessary, or why should one take further trouble in the matter? This is probably the reasoning which commends itself to the great bulk of insurers, and it is well for them that the life insurance business of this country is in the main conducted by men whose knowledge of mathematical science and whose personal integrity render them safe depositories of the vast interests confided to their care.

In the present day, when the growing intelligence of all classes of our nation is taking hold of, and gradually mastering, the difficulties of the various branches of scientific study, it seems hardly possible that life insurance can much longer be left so completely in the hands of its professional disciples as it now undoubtedly is.

And it is in the hope of awakening an extended interest in the subject that we have devoted a space in our columns to the present article.

Whatever life insurance may have been in its earliest days,—and no doubt chance, rather than skill, was chiefly relied on in those times,—it is quite certain that now it is exclusively a scientific business, in which all the complex laws governing human life in its physical aspect, have to be closely studied in conjunction with the present and prospective financial condition of the country, as determining the rate of interest which may be safely calculated upon for investment of capital, &c. &c.

Every insurance office bases its transactions upon an instrument which is called a 'Life Table;' and for the benefit of those to whom this name is of mysterious import we propose very briefly to explain what a life table is, and what are its uses.

'A life table,' says an eminent writer on this subject, 'is an instrument of investigation; it may be called a *biometer*, for it gives the exact measure of the duration of life under given circumstances.' It shows the result of the observations of the rate of mortality prevailing in a given period whether amongst a select class, or amongst the whole population indiscriminately. Of course the longer the period over which the observations extend the greater is the probability of the results agreeing with the truth, as the mortality sometimes differs considerably in different years in the same district. And by the same reasoning a rate of mortality founded on facts relating to the whole of England during a period of years, must represent more accurately the chances of life of Englishmen than would result from selecting any particular city or district as the basis of the estimate: for in proportion as the number of facts observed increases, the more do errors from over or under-statement tend to neutralize each other.

It is evident that where the two elements *life* and *money* are concerned, exceptional periods of high mortality (such as the cholera, and other epidemics) and of monetary pressure

(such as would arise in the event of a European war) must be taken into account, or the life office would get into difficulties. And thus it is that no insurance office would be justified in using a table of mortality which gave a duration of life beyond that of the average population during a series of years, nor in reckoning upon a rate of interest greater than is yielded by the best securities.

A life table can be constructed in two ways:—1. From the *deaths alone*, as was the case with the Northampton Life Table of Dr. Price; but unless the population out of which the deaths are taken is stationary and the births and deaths are equal—there being moreover no disturbance from emigration or immigration—a table constructed on this plan must undoubtedly give fallacious results. 2. But if a comparison is made of the *deaths* and the *living* at each age, and the ratio which the one bears to the other is ascertained; a rate of mortality, and from thence a life table, can be constructed which, in the words of Dr. Price himself, 'must be correct.' And it was upon this plan that the Carlisle Table was constructed by Mr. Milne from 1840 deaths in the nine years 1779–87 in two parishes of Carlisle (St. Cuthbert and St. Mary) and from two enumerations of the population at an interval of eight years. Mr. Milne did not distinguish the sexes, but it is known that the females greatly exceeded the males in Carlisle in 1787.

The passing of the Registration Act in 1837 paved the way for the satisfaction of a want which had long been felt by scientific men for a national table, and in the Fifth Annual Report of the Registrar-General of England, an English Life Table, deduced from the numbers living at different ages in 1841, and from the deaths at the corresponding ages in the same year, together with an explanation of its construction, was published.

Subsequent reports of the same public officer contain other life tables, and to those who desire to study the subject in its scientific form, we cannot do better than recommend the singularly clear and able expositions of the science of life insurance which these volumes contain.

After the census of 1851 had been taken, it appeared to be desirable that a new English life table should be constructed, embracing the results of the two censuses of 1841 and 1851, and the registered deaths in the seventeen years, 1838–54. The completion of the Swedish Difference Engine, which Her Majesty's Government—at the instance of the Registrar-General—had ordered to be made in England, from the designs of the inventors, Messrs. Scheutz, of Stockholm, and which had been deposited in the General Register Office, opportunely supplied a most useful auxiliary for the contemplated work.

This grand index to the life-power of the whole English population, male and female—the English Life Table, *par excellence*—has just been published, in one handsome volume, of some 800 pages, by the authority of the Registrar-General of England. It is derived from the ascertained deaths of 6,470,720 persons, viz. 3,283,255 males and 3,187,465 females, and from the living at two enumerations, yielding upwards of 288,233,000 years of life. The greatest possible care was taken that the facts should really represent the condition of the population *at home*, and we doubt if any one can read Dr. Farr's elaborate Introduction to the life table without being satisfied that it would be difficult to think of any disturbing element which has not been fully considered and its value determined. Within the period of observation there occurred the cholera epidemics of 1849 and 1854 and the influenza epidemic of 1847, so that the conditions to which we have before adverted, as being necessary to a properly constructed life table, viz. that it should provide for periods of exceptionally high mortality, is thus complied with.

From the above facts the rate of mortality prevailing over the seventeen years was deduced, and thence the logarithm of the probability of living a year after any age ( $\lambda_p$ ); then by the method of finite differences, and

with the aid of the difference engine, the logarithms of the living at each year of age ( $\lambda_l$ ) were obtained. The numbers to these logarithms ( $l$ ) supply the means of ascertaining the numbers of the dying ( $d$ ) at each age in a properly graduated series; and thus we are supplied with the two fundamental columns of the life table. Upon this foundation is built the elaborate superstructure of tables with which the insurance actuary enters the field, and sets a fair market value upon the life of every one who may wish to make his chance of life the subject of a pecuniary transaction.

The following is a brief analysis of some of the leading features of the English Table:—

In 1,000,000 births there will be 511,745 boys and 488,255 girls, who will in the first year of age (0) be reduced to 428,026 and 422,481 respectively; the tale of infant life lost is therefore of boys 83,719 (or 18 per cent.)—26,787 dying in the first month; and of girls 65,774 (or 15 per cent.), of whom 19,716 die in the first month. Following the little ones to the next period of age (1 year completed), the decrement becomes for males 27,521 (6·7 per cent.), or about as many as die in the first month; and for females 26,159 (6·4 per cent.). At age 4½ the males will be reduced to half their original number; the females have an advantage of two years, their original number being reduced to half in 46½ years. These two periods represent the *probable* lifetime of the two sexes at birth. In the early part of the 17th century it was estimated by Graunt that 'in England seven out of every 100 born live to the age of 70'—a statement of great interest when compared with the fact that at the present day *twenty-four* per cent. of the English population attain the 'threescore and ten' of the Psalmist.

By Demoisire's hypothesis the *probable lifetime* = expectation of life; but in a correct life table such is not the case, and the difference between the two is shown in the English Table (p. cli.). The table of mean after-lifetime of both sexes (pp. 36–39) shows that the females have an advantage in longevity over the males at every year of age from birth upwards. Thus the mean after-lifetime of males at birth is 39·91 years, of females 41·85; at age 5—males 49·71, females 50·33; at age 21—males 38·80, females 39·63; at age 45—males 22·76, females 24·06; at 70—males 8·45, females 9·02; and so on to the end of the chapter.

A comparison of the rates of mortality per cent. of the two sexes at each age yields the following results:—Of children under 8 years of age the mortality of girls is less at every year of age than that of boys; from ages 8 to 38 inclusive the female mortality is in excess of the male rate; and from 39 to 100 the scale is again reversed, the excess being on the side of the males.

It appears that the mean age of those who died in England in the seventeen years 1838–54 was 29·4 years, 'whereas the mean lifetime of children born in England during the same period is 40·9 years by the life table.' This difference of 11·5 years is explained by the fact that the life table assumes a normal population wherein the births balance the deaths, whereas the actual population is increasing, and the added force of young lives makes the mean age at death 11·5 years less than the mean lifetime by the table.

In the Introduction the construction of the life table is clearly explained, and concise descriptions are given of the formation and use of all the tables. A section is devoted to the 'Analysis of Values as affected by Time, Interest, and Contingencies of Life or of Commerce: Notations;' and the investigations having reference to all kinds of risks, compound and partial, are most interesting and valuable.

There is a large collection of formulas for single and joint lives, both for life insurance and annuities; and modes by which new formulas for almost every possible contingency may be readily deduced are also given. An index to the notation employed will be found on pp. v.–viii.



The tabular matter is well arranged. It comprises tables for single and joint lives, and many of these are specially interesting as having been actually calculated and printed by machinery. Of the 600 pages of tables 230 pages are the direct results of machine work, and are printed in characteristic type. The appendix contains an illustration of the method employed in the adaptation of this novel power to the performance of actual calculation.

When Mr. Babbage shall have perfected the grand idea of his analytical machine the Swedish difference engine must hide its diminished head; but until then it is entitled to the proud distinction of being the first example of a calculating machine which has given tangible proofs of its usefulness.

In single lives there are tables for males and females at various rates of interest, as well as half-yearly and quarterly life tables.

In the joint lives the logarithms of D and N at all combinations of age for two lives are arranged in juxtaposition, so that the value of the joint life annuity can be most readily found.

The English Life Table is a complete textbook for the actuary, who is moreover enabled to see exactly how every column is constructed, and what means were taken to prevent errors creeping into such an immense mass of figures. The greatest care seems to have been taken to insure accuracy, and the result is an official publication which is most creditable to the Department from whence it issues.

We cannot but think its appearance singularly opportune now that the Chancellor of the Exchequer is seeking to extend the benefits of life insurance to the humbler classes.

The whole working population of England—a vast majority—are invited to make provision for themselves and those who are dependent upon them. They are warned that the operations of friendly societies—although legitimate enough in their proper sphere, that of providing sick-pay in illness—are not conducted on principles which render them safe investments for provision in case of death. And the Government have now the means of knowing exactly how to start their plan on a basis which shall secure to the artisan and labourer the advantage of life insurance, with perfect security to both parties, and on the most moderate terms.

We are glad to learn, then, that Mr. Gladstone has adopted the English Life Table as the basis for the Government Life Insurance, which, under the able management of Mr. Scudamore, of the Post-Office Department, will very shortly be in full operation.

## CURRENT LITERATURE.

### SHAKESPEARE IN GERMANY.

*Shakespeare in Germany in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries: an Account of the English Actors in Germany and the Netherlands, and of the Plays performed by them during the same Period.* By Albert Cohn. (Asher & Co.)

THE first title of this book requires an explanation. There is no account in these pages of the modern study of Shakespeare in Germany, or of the great critics and translators who have combined to make our dramatist as classical among Germans as Homer and as popular as their own Schiller. Mr. Cohn's handsome volume treats exclusively of an earlier date. He shows that long before the days of Schlegel and Tieck, or even of Lessing, Shakespeare's plays were admired in Germany and imitated by German authors. During the poet's lifetime his tragedies and comedies were performed by wandering companies of English actors on the Continent; and there are plays of that period extant in German which are either borrowed directly from Shakespeare or have in their plot and characters the signs of affinity to his works. Six of these old German plays are published by Mr. Cohn with an English version in parallel columns. He has prefixed a valuable essay on the early German drama, which throws some light on the history of Shakespeare and his companions. The particulars which he has collected are, for the most part,

new or little known; and the volume, as a whole, is an important contribution to the literature of a subject of which the interest seems inexhaustible.

Early in the 15th century English actors began to acquire a reputation on the Continent. A company played at Constance during the Council for the entertainment of the 'super-grammatical' Emperor Sigismund and the doctors who burned John Huss. As soon as the modern drama established its fame in London, players began to migrate into Germany. In 1580 the English stage had not, according to Sidney, any tragedy superior to 'Gorboduc.' Before 1588, probably in 1585 or 1586, a company of English comedians was recommended by the Earl of Leicester to Frederick II. King of Denmark. Five members of this company appear to have proceeded to Dresden and Berlin. Among the names are those of two fellow-players of Shakespeare, Thomas Pope and George Bryan. They were engaged by the Elector of Saxony in October 1586, at the annual salary of 100 dollars each, with an allowance for clothes, lodging and board. Another company, under the patronage of the Earl of Worcester, left England for the Netherlands and Germany in the winter of 1591,

with the intention of practising their profession, by performing of music, feats of agility, and games of comedies, tragedies, and histories, for maintaining themselves and providing their expenses on their said journey.

Part of this company took service with the Duke of Brunswick, and drew their salary at Wolfenbüttel until 1617. Near the same time English actors were at Vienna, Frankfort, and at most of the chief cities of Germany, their presence being traced by entries in local archives. Some of these notices are very curious. In 1607 the English comedians urgently entreat leave to play at Elbing, but are refused,

as this is a tax on the citizens, and the melancholy state of affairs will not permit it.

At the Hague, in 1610, they have leave to play on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday,

paying 20 pounds to the guardian of the poor, but not to play otherwise or longer on pain of punishment.

At Leyden, an Englishman, W. Pedel, is allowed to

exhibit various chaste and beautiful performances with his body, without using any words [in one of the churches], provided he cease during the preaching of God's word, and that the poor orphans have half the profits.

It is evident that the players relied as much on their music and dancing, and pantomimic action, as on their tragedies and comedies. As long as they played in English few of their audience could have understood them. But in the year 1613 they acted at Nuremberg, 'in good German,' and with such success that the prices were doubled after the first performances.

Notwithstanding the extent of Mr. Cohn's researches, the most interesting question connected with this subject is still unanswered. It would have been a fitting reward for so much wearisome deciphering of barren MSS. to have alighted on the name of William Shakespeare. As yet, however, there is no direct evidence that Shakespeare visited Germany. His connection with the Earl of Leicester's company makes it possible that he was engaged by the King of Denmark, but he was not one of the five Englishmen who quitted Denmark for Saxony in 1586. Possibly, also, he was the 'jesting player Will,' who carried Sir Philip Sidney's letter from Utrecht to England in the spring of that year. What is certain is that Leicester took players with him in his expedition to the Netherlands, and that Shakespeare was a member of the Earl's company about that time. The chain of facts is insufficient to prove more.

We are disposed to attach some weight to the internal evidence of Shakespeare's works, in favour of his having had experience of foreign travel, and of war, and the sea. No-

thing would account so well for his universal knowledge. Shakespeare's technical familiarity with the various forms of life is so great, that every trade might claim him as an adept. Lord Campbell took him for a lawyer; Bishop Wordsworth takes him for a divine. If he was equally at home among the Romans, of whom he read in Plutarch, there is no reason for ascribing this skill to the mere instinct of genius; but all the more likelihood that he underwent the training which is most apt to strengthen the powers of close observation and historical conception. Foreign travel is in some degree an apprenticeship to general knowledge of the world—both past and present.

We would suggest further a few minute indications which point the same way. If Shakespeare went with Leicester, he must have sailed from Harwich, and probably returned by way of Dover. On the former route two places, obscure in themselves, are mentioned by him in casual allusions, quite irrelevant to the plays in which the passages occur, namely, Ware ('Twelfth Night'), and Manningtree ('Henry IV.'). On the voyage homeward he would pass the Goodwins ('Merchant of Venice'), and see the full grandeur of the stately cliff at Dover, to which his description has been appropriated. That he did so can only be surmised; but Shakespeare's biography altogether is little more than a fabric of dubious tradition and likely conjecture.

Of the six old German plays published by Mr. Cohn the first is the most remarkable—the comedy of the beautiful Sidia by Jacob Ayrrer of Nuremberg. This play has been supposed by Tieck and others to be 'based upon an old English piece now lost, which Shakespeare also made use of in the "Tempest." It bears the date 1595, and was therefore written long before the date usually assigned to the 'Tempest;' nor is the resemblance between the two plays at all that which would arise from direct borrowing. Nevertheless it is far too striking a likeness to be accidental. As Mr. Cohn observes:

In both pieces we have two hostile princes, of whom the one practises the arts of magic to get the son of the other into his power; in both pieces this prince has a spirit in his service, through whose power the enemy's arms are rendered innocuous; and lastly, in both pieces an attachment is formed between the only daughter of the one prince, and the captive son of the other, which is eventually the means of bringing about a reconciliation between the hostile families.

The following scene between the young prince *Engelbrecht*, the magician *Ludolf*, and his daughter the beautiful *Sidia*, is a counterpart of the first interview between *Ferdinand*, *Prospero*, and *Miranda*.

*Ludolf*. Young prince, I thee my prisoner make.

*Engelbrecht*. To-day thou no such prize shalt take:

Boy, draw your sword, and him transfix.

(They try to draw. *Ludolf* strikes their swords with his wand.)

*Squire*. My sword, sir, in its scabbard sticks; I think it must enchanted be.

*Eng*. Yes, it is nought but sorcery.

That from my lamed limbs I learn,

For I can neither move nor turn;

And therefore, as no choice I see,

Thy prisoner I acknowledge me.

In the next act the *Prince* enters meanly attired, carrying logs of wood, and *Sidia* makes love to him, like *Miranda* in the similar scene of the 'Tempest.'

There is a demon, *Runcifall*, more like *Caliban* than *Ariel*, but not much resembling either. In other respects Ayrrer's play is utterly dissimilar to Shakespeare's. It is wanting in poetical and dramatic power, and is replete with low buffoonery.

The second piece, Ayrrer's 'Comedy of the Beautiful Phoenicia,' reproduces the leading incidents of 'Much Ado about Nothing,' both plays having a common origin in a novel of Bandello. It is uncertain whether the English or the German comedy was written first; and Mr. Cohn is of opinion that a lost play founded on the novel was used by both dramatists, and also by Duke Henry Julius of Brunswick in his comedy of 'Vincentius Ladis-



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laus.' We do not, however, see any necessity for the theory of a lost play to account for the likeness of Shakespeare's and Ayer's. The latter is what might be supposed to be written by an author who had seen 'Much Ado about Nothing' and read the Italian novel. An English company performing 'Much Ado' to a German audience would be sure to retrench the verbal jests, and on enlarge on the more demonstrative portion of the comedy, the deception and remorse of *Claudio*. In Ayer's play we miss altogether *Benedick* and *Beatrice*, *Dogberry* and *Verges*; and the scenes connected with the marriage of *Claudio* and *Hero*, are elaborated more fully. But the names of *Tymon* and *Phaenicia* are retained from *Bandello*; and the adaptation of Shakespeare, if such it be, evinces considerable talent and feeling.

The tragedy of 'Julius and Hyppolita' is published for the sake of its partial resemblance to the 'Two Gentlemen of Verona.' In both plays a lover is supplanted by a false friend, and there is a greedy jesting servant; otherwise the incidents, names, and places, are all different; and the German play ends in the death of the three principal characters. It is a tedious affair; though the translation is very spirited, occasionally at the cost of literal exactness.

The next play, 'Titus Andronicus,' is closely connected with the English tragedy of that name. Throughout it has the same sequence of incidents, and often of speeches. Almost every particular of loathsome butchery is common to both; yet one circumstance mentioned by Mr. Cohn goes far to prove that the German play was taken from an earlier source than the present text of Shakespeare:—

In the year 1591, a piece called 'Titus and Vespasian' was performed on the London stage. It must have been very popular, for from the 11th of April, 1591, to the 15th of January, 1593, it is very frequently mentioned by Henslowe. In Shakespeare's 'Titus Andronicus' there is no *Vespasian*: no one therefore could ever imagine that the piece alluded to by Henslowe was the original form of the Shakespearean piece. . . . But in our German 'Titus Andronicus' a *Vespasian* is one of the principal characters.

He fills, in fact, the place of two characters, *Marcus* and *Lucius Andronicus*, and becomes emperor at the end of the play. The comparison of the German tragedy is a useful help towards recognizing the signs of Shakespeare's hand in 'Andronicus.'

The fifth play is a curious adaptation of Shakespeare's 'Hamlet.' Here again are signs that an earlier edition of the English play has been used than that with which we are familiar. *Polonius* is called *Corambus*, as in the quarto of 1603. In every scene the dialogue recalls that of Shakespeare, often to the insertion of phrases made pointless by the omission of what should precede or follow. With so evident a design of imitation, it is truly wonderful how far the anonymous German has contrived to vulgarize the play, and to spoil its incomparable beauties. In Act I. Sc. 1 we have the following dialogue:—

*Horatio*. My lord, a strange thing hath happened, inasmuch as a ghost appears here every quarter of an hour. To my fancy, he is very like your father, the late king. He doeth much harm to the sentinels on the rounds.

*Hamlet*. I hope not, for the souls of the pious rest quietly till the day of their revival.

*Hor*. But so it is, my lord. I have seen him myself.

*Francisco*. He frightened me most horribly, my lord.

*2nd Sentinel*. And me he dealt a good box on the ears.

In the place of *Hamlet's* soliloquies, he is made to tell stories of a bride with a false eye and false teeth, and of a woman at Strasburg who was moved to confess a murder by seeing the same deed acted on the stage. *Osrice* becomes a mere clown, a *Pickelharing*; *Rosencrantz* and *Guildestern* are made two ruffians who are charged to murder *Hamlet*. He eludes them by an artifice worthy of *Munchausen*:—

At length the gods inspired me with a thought. I begged the knaves for time to say a prayer before my end, and when I called, Fire! they were to lodge their bullets in my breast. But when I called, I fell flat on the ground, so that they shot each other.

This device appeared so excellent to the author, that he brought it visibly on the stage before making *Hamlet* recount it to *Horatio*. *Ophelia* is not drowned, but ascends a high hill, and throws herself down from the top. The best thing in the German 'Hamlet' is the final moral, which may be seasonable at Berlin now:—

Thus it is when a prince by craft the crown will seize,

And take it for himself by treacherous practices; 'Tis nothing that he gets but mockery and scorn, For he shall reap at eve what he has sown at morn.

'Romeo and Juliet' is the last of the pieces which Mr. Cohn has published. It has the same general characteristics which we have remarked in 'Hamlet.' Shakespeare has been followed so closely in the structure of the tragedy and in certain passages, that it is little else than a copy. The German dramatist has, nevertheless, with curious infelicity, done all he could to mar his exquisite materials. The play begins with a measured altercation between *Capulet* and *Montagu*, in the presence of the prince, in this style:—

*Montagu*. He who insults my kinsmen attacks me and my honour.

*Capulet*. He who defames my extraction without reason deserves no respect, &c. &c.

*Juliet's* soliloquy at the garden window is absurdly preceded by a serenade from *Romeo*. She begins:—

Holla! what does this mean? Music under my window?

But the disturbance does not hinder her from proceeding:

O Romeo, wherefore is thy name Romeo? nor from expressing surprise at being overheard. The poetry of Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet' is omitted as far as possible; and an offensive *Pickelharing* intrudes himself into the most pathetic scenes. For this blemish here and elsewhere the author is less to blame than his audience. It could be easily shown that the introduction of a coarse jester was a theatrical necessity, in which not even Shakespeare could have his own way.

Thanks are due to the translators of these six plays, Professor Solly, Miss Archer, and Messrs. Lippner and Bucher. Professor Solly's version is on the whole the most literal, though somewhat stiff. Miss Archer has often rendered only the general sense of a passage, instead of the words of the text. But the fidelity and spirit of all the translations is sufficient to convey an adequate idea of the originals. Ayer and his fellow-dramatists lose but little in their English dress; and the works will be read with interest, for Shakespeare's sake, by many to whom the old German has been an obstacle hitherto.

We have passed over many of Mr. Cohn's speculations: for instance, whether Shakespeare was indebted for any thoughts to the nun *Hrotsvita*, who wrote plays in the tenth century, and whether he borrowed the idea of *Benedick* from the *Vincentius* of the above-named Duke of Brunswick. The points of correspondence which Mr. Cohn adduces are not striking, but they deserve examination, and his remarks are well worthy of the attention of students of Shakespeare.

## TWO NOVELS.

*Put to the Test*. A novel. Three volumes. (Maxwell & Co.)

*Paid in Full*. A novel. By Henry James Byron. Three volumes. (Maxwell & Co.)

THE novels whose names we have just written deviate somewhat from the beaten path. The moral theory which they propound, though not altogether consolatory to erring human nature, is perfectly consistent with those conditions which all of us must fulfil, or violate only at our peril. The authors are content to portray life as they have actually observed it, and to allow Nemesis to follow up the wrong-doer to the bitter end.

'Put to the Test' is a domestic story of current English life as led by the upper section of the middle classes in quiet country nooks. We have the vicar, the curate, and the doctor, with their concomitants; the family of the merchant who goes daily to town, and the squire who visits occasionally his domain, and puts life into the little community by organizing picnics, or dispensing hospitalities at the hall. The incidents of the piece are few, and come about not the less effectively because naturally. It is not, indeed, till we get well into the story, and circumstances have drawn out the terrible possibilities of character which have been lurking in the breasts of some of the personages, that we are startled into the consciousness of the tragic elements hid in almost every household. This cruel tyranny of circumstances silently unfolding character—laying, as it were, its hands palpably on the secret springs of human action—our author, or perhaps authoress, depicts with masterly tact and delicacy.

Of the Whittikers, who lived with their father the merchant, at Beach House, on the rocky coast of Sussex, we need only mention Rachel, 'the visitor of the poor, the active Sunday-school teacher, and Mrs. Bennett's, the vicar's wife's special friend;' Jacinthe, the delicate one, but at the same time the beauty of the flock; and Hetty the handsome, the free, daring and spirited, the self-possessed and independent, yet perfectly feminine withal.

There was that something about her which can only be expressed by the word 'fascinating.' Something which held your admiration by force, whilst it forbade the least approach to jealousy. Among her sisters she was always allowed to be the clever one, the superior; her advice was listened to, her opinion respected by all. Still it was a quiet kind of homage they paid her, more in deed than word, and she took it as quietly as it was given, or rather as a matter of course. She never seemed to doubt or mistrust herself or her own judgment, nor did others doubt her; the possibility of her going astray never appeared to enter into any of their heads. The mere idea would have been scouted as too ridiculous to be even insulting.

It will not be wondered, then, when commercial disasters came upon her father, that this self-reliant creature thought it her duty to leave Beach House, where she had been so gently nurtured and had received such willing homage, and attempt to lighten the burdens of her home by seeking the occupation of a governess. Through the instrumentality of young Squire Compton, the neighbour and friend of the Whittikers, Hetty soon finds herself at Nettlescombe, the seat of Doctor and Mrs. Thornton, perfectly resigned to her lot and active in the performance of her new duties. This doctor was a portly and imposing man, with a clear insight into the nature of men and things. Apart from his profession, in which he was distinguished as well as popular, he was a person of considerable intellectual grasp; and when anything lay between him and his object he was unscrupulous to a degree. A man of the world he was in the most thorough-going sense of the phrase; and Hetty, accustomed as she had been to rule supreme among mild curates and loving sisters, soon began to feel in this doctor the presence of an intellectual master. The doctor's wife was from home on the night of Hetty's arrival, and this is the manner of talk to which he treats her as he sits down opposite the dreamy girl and stirs up the fire:—

'It is wonderful how the physical condition acts on the mental. You were cold just now, Miss Whittiker, very cold; at present you feel more comfortable, warmer; and the result is, more charitable feelings towards all the world.'

Hetty laughed.

'I was not only cold,' she said.

The doctor rubbed his hands before the fire, and smiled again. It was not a pleasant kind of smile; there was too much mockery in it. Hetty drew back a little, and he continued—

'To us doctors, Miss Whittiker, the line separating the physical and moral world is very fine, sometimes imperceptible. To you uninitiated, man is a wonderful creature of thought and action; to us he is a wonderful creation of tissues, vessels, and muscles—a grand piece of mechanism.'



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As for morals! Bah! A dose of senna and salts, or a little rhubarb, does more good than all the lecturers in the world!

Hetty did not answer, but she looked up with her keen dark eyes into his face with not at all an approving glance. He laughed amused.

'Ay,' he said, 'you will hear and see a great many naughty things as you make your way through this world, Miss Whittiker. Three years hence you won't look up so disgusted if you should happen to hear my words repeated.'

'I am not disgusted now,' Hetty answered; 'only I am sorry—'

'Sorry for me, perhaps, for my benighted condition. Thank you. Now, Miss Whittiker, I must leave again alone to muse over the miseries of persons in your position. As, however, you are comfortably seated in an armchair, and close to a blazing fire, I have no doubt you won't feel them so terrible as you did an hour ago. To soothe your feelings still farther, I will tell you that in a short time I shall be back, when I hope you will give me your company at dinner.'

Such is the man into whose fatal clutches the pure-minded and self-reliant Hetty ultimately falls. Her very strength proves her weakness; and by-and-by the home by the Sussex coast, if not forgotten, is seldom communicated with; and to her heart-broken father and the whole family she becomes little better than an outcast. In the meantime the doctor's wife dies suddenly on hearing that her eldest daughter, about to be married to young Compton, has been killed by a railway accident. Hetty affects to accompany one of her remaining pupils abroad, and indeed goes as far as Germany. After a time she and the doctor are married, return to town, and lead a gay and fashionable life. The severe illness of her beautiful sister Jacinthe, to whom young Compton is now paying his addresses, draws her at last to the old home, and Hetty's aching heart is soothed with something like a reconciliation. The doctor, too, takes a run down, and charms every one with the brilliancy of his conversation; and the world to poor Hetty becomes once more almost enjoyable. But the cholera is in the village: and Maggie Thornton, the doctor's remaining step-daughter, is seized, in his absence, with the terrible epidemic. He rushes to her aid in vain, and she dies in his presence. Her death leaves him the owner of the fine estate of Nettlescombe; but Rachel, who visited the poor and was so very pious, and is now the curate's wife, has never taken to the doctor—has always looked upon him with suspicion; and, at this particular juncture, she believes herself possessed of certain facts that will go far to implicate him in the death of his ward. The upshot of all this the reader will discover for himself. It is enough for us to say that the interest is kept up till the very last; and that, in all the phases of sin and suffering, crime and death, the authoress never once forgets the cunning of her craft, or that delicacy of narration which makes a tale of shame at once healthy and fascinating. Not that vice appears in her pages in any false guise; on the contrary, she never masks it; and, while attempting to indicate the laws and fathom the depths of the mysterious sea in which we all sail, she hesitates not to call wrong, wrong, and to point out that of a surety the avenger will follow.

'Paid in Full,' on the contrary, makes no attempt to solve the moral problems of our nature; has no underlying philosophy running through its pages, suggesting a reconsideration of the laws which pronounce on good and evil; it is simply a tale of human wrong, and of persistent human revenge. Mr. Byron keeps the idea of Nemesis before us, but he does not fill our mind with the dread of her grim impalpable presence. In reading 'Put to the Test' a reverential awe is upon us, and the author has managed to impart to her tale something of the moral grandeur of Greek tragedy. Mr. Byron affects nothing of this, or rather not to the same extent; and yet, by the use of a series of vigorous realistic sketches, he produces a well filled canvas instinct with life and action; and its balance and gradation, light and shade, are so managed as to entitle it to the rank of a work of art. This is the first time, if we

mistake not, Mr. Byron figures as a novelist. He has earned laurels in other fields of literature, and from the earnestness with which he has set about his task, we have little hesitation in saying that he will do so in this.

Gideon Munro was a widower, and farmed resolutely

two hundred acres of as intractable land as ever disappointed the hopes of the agriculturist. A cold stern man was Munro, generally unpopular from his austere manner, and by no means hospitable nature. Nobody knew where he came from, and Gideon was not the sort of person to force family matters upon his acquaintance. He was a brusque, three-cornered kind of man, with a determined mouth and a settled frown; and his manners, though scarcely rude, were chilling and repellent. At the farmers' ordinary on market days he was invariably looked upon as a wet blanket, and when he rose to depart a sigh of relief would escape from more than one overcharged agrarian bosom. He was a staunch Churchman, and never missed sitting in his pew, with his cold eye fixed on the clergyman, and he gave the responses in a loud, hard manner, like an automaton. He was not a liberal master, but he paid to the day. He had a son, who was something between a copying clerk and a messenger, in a big town far away, and a little adopted daughter, who was the one bright ray of sunshine in his dismal home. Her winning ways and playful prattle had so charmed her chilling foster-father, that he seemed now to take pleasure in no society save hers; and in proportion to his boundless affection for the little girl, Gideon Munro became more cold and hard in his manner to the outer world. It seemed, indeed, as if he could think of nothing but his delicate fair-haired Lily. As she grew up, he taught her all he could, and then engaged a governess from Deddington, for he set his face against girl-schools, and wouldn't hear of the Misses Minks's Academy for Young Ladies at any price. Lily was to be a lady, but she was to be educated under his own eye. When his great raw-boned son came home for a holiday, and strove to make himself agreeable to the little mistress of the house, Gideon would look on with a strange contemptuous smile at the awkward attempts of his boorish boy, but mapped out in his own mind a pleasant future for the pair nevertheless.

In Lily's disposition, however, there was the foundation of a flirt, and her love of admiration was unmistakeable. In this old Gideon only saw the evidence of superior taste and native refinement, and when the news was brought him that his fair-haired Lily, whom he had so petted and loved, had run away with a vicious and selfish lordling, who had taken advantage of an accident first to win and then to ruin the poor girl, his ravings knew no bound, and he soon shrunk into a broken-hearted man.

Had not his son returned and taken the management of the farm into his own hands, everything would have gone to rack and ruin. Lily's departure, though it had struck John deeply, had not produced the visible effect that it had on his father. John had loved Lily well:

and when he thought of it—and he thought of it much—a tightening of the lips and a strange evil look in the eyes would be all that was apparent to the casual observer. But there was a dogged hatred at his heart for the man who had robbed him of his intended wife, and he would sit by his father of an evening, aiming short fierce little blows at the crackling log, morosely weaving his small schemes of revenge, for which he was content to wait until such time as he could glut his vengeance in his own fashion.

By the dying embers on that December night the pallid John Munro swore an oath, dictated by his father—an oath that he would devote his life to one object—revenge upon the seducer, the murderer, of Lily; that he would strike the nobleman a deadly blow—one that should cover him with a shame that would blight and utterly destroy him; that he would leave no plan untried, no stone unturned, for this one object; that the blow should come at a time when the world was smiling on the villain, and when the joy of the preceding moments should add an extra pang to the crushing agony of the terrible exposure.

Such is the plot which Mr. Byron lays down for himself, and which he carries out with no ordinary skill. By way of preparing us for his *modus operandi*, we are informed early in the first volume that in the autumn of the

year in which old Gideon Munro died 'the Honourable Tom Gripner engaged as body-servant a remarkably smart young man, who called himself Ledbitter, but who had previously been known by the name of Munro. The Honourable Tom was not aware of that fact; and this Mr. Ledbitter, the valet, inheriting all the stern characteristics of his father, never forgets, for a single day, the solemn oath he had taken: and, after thirty-five years of waiting and watching and scheming, he has the fiendish gratification of seeing the debt he thinks his master owes him 'paid in full.'

When the real story begins, Lily and her illegitimate son, Horace Bentley, are living in a small street in the neighbourhood of Soho; and, by the aid of a distant relative and her own little exertions, she had not only been able to educate the boy in a so-so way at a country boarding school, but actually to apprentice him to Doctor Archer Pinto, of Bloomsbury. Shortly after this Lord Glenburn arrives in town, and little Mrs. Bentley disappears mysteriously; her son Horace falls in love with his master's daughter, and marries her, but fails to receive with her the parental blessing. The young couple, in fact, are thrown upon their own resources, and, as a last means of salvation, the husband betakes himself to literature.

And now it is that the author makes good use of his knowledge of London life as it is to be found in theatres, and in the haunts of those literary Bohemians who cater for them. Managers and actors and lessees—patrons of wealth and parasites of doubtful degree; and especially the theatrical scribe, with his hopes and fears and disappointments, are all dashed in boldly and with a result that is quite masterly in its way.

Lord Glenburn and his establishment are the means which the author seizes to open up to us another phase of life which includes that of the lacquey as well as of the lord; and then, through the reprobate marriage relations of Glenburn, we are introduced to some of the most noisome dens in St. Giles's, and are enabled to catch a satisfying but melancholy glance of how men and women and little children hasten to destruction in that desert region.

Mr. Ledbitter, the valet, is the link which connects such heterogeneous elements; and he ultimately manages to bring about the terrible consummation to which he had devoted his life. Had he not been the son of his father, we should have pronounced such a tenacity of purpose unnatural and almost impossible.

Mr. Byron has not succeeded altogether in shaking himself rid of a style of composition to which he has been so long accustomed; but he shows sufficient capacity in this new walk to warrant his friends' entertaining the highest hopes of his future success. May these hopes become prophecies.

## BULWER LYTTON'S POEMS.

Poems. By the Right Hon. Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, Bart., M.P. New Edition, revised. Murray, 1865.

THE question was asked long ago as to where Fancy was bred—'or in the heart or in the head?'—but no general answer appears to have been given. There seems, however, to be little difficulty in assigning their proper birthplace to the poetical fancies of Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton. They are entirely of the head; the heart has little or nothing to do with them. That is probably the reason why they never have been, and never will be popular, in spite of the ingenuity which marks their conception, and the praiseworthy care with which they have been elaborated. A lyric poet who seems never to speak from his heart must not expect a large audience, though he may find a few select admirers who may appreciate the hold he manifests over his feelings, and the power which he displays of philosophizing on all occasions and under all circumstances.

Many of the lyrics contained in the present volume are brilliant and sparkling, but their



radiance is as that of a structure of ice. They may dazzle, but they cannot warm; and their frigid splendour can scarcely gain for them more than cold applause. This defect makes itself especially apparent in the amatory effusions. Not a heart-throb is heard in them, not a spark of passion is visible, but they form a mere Paradise of dainty devices, full of quaint conceits, and rich in strange rhymes. The touch of nature which might make them come home to all hearts is wanting, and its place cannot be supplied by any amount of subtle thought or clever workmanship. There is, however, an air of dignified repose about a portion of the poems, something akin to that which Mrs. Jarley recognized in her waxen images and endeavoured to describe by the term 'classical.'

The preface to the present collection informs us that among the poems which it contains are 'a few till now unpublished.' Very few indeed they must be, for almost every one of the poems now before us is to be found in the edition of 1853. Most of the shorter lyrics were then united under the title of 'Corn-Flowers,' a heading which the author has now discarded, as he has also dispensed with the information that the last five pieces in the book belonged to his 'Earlier Poems.' The first, and perhaps the best, poem in the collection appeared not long ago in *Blackwood's Magazine*. It is called 'The Boatman,' and describes a voyage down the river of life. A young traveller stands, half-sleeping, among 'the silvery, trembling sedges,' and hears the river rolling through the mist. He calls to the Boatman, who takes him in,

And through the drowsy reeds from land  
The boat went soft and slow.

A 'beautiful fairy' dazzles the traveller's eyes as the boat pursues its way, and later in the day he sees an 'angel form' which beckons to him, and each time he wishes to stay his journey and pursue the bewitching object. The Boatman will not tarry, but on the second occasion he allows the angel to enter his boat.

Close, close to my side,  
O angel! O bride!  
A fresh sun on the universe dawns from thine eyes,  
To shine evermore  
Through each change on the shore,  
And undimmed by each cloud that flits over the  
skies,  
Side by side thus we whisper—'Who loves, loves  
for ever,'  
As wave upon wave to the sea runs the river,  
And the oar on the smoothness drops noiseless and  
steady,  
Till we start with a sigh,  
Was it she—was it I—  
Who first turned to look back on the way we had  
made?  
Who first saw the soft tints of the garden-land fade?  
Who first sighed—'See the rose-hue is fading  
already?'

A storm breaks over the boat, and when it clears the passengers are altered,—the youth is less ardent than before, and the 'angel form' has lost its early charm. Soon a mighty city is reached, full of 'gamesters at eager play,' some of whom enter the boat and carry on a game in which the traveller joins with zest. Fortune smiles on him, and he is on the point of winning a noble prize, 'when all of a sudden drops down the sun.' Unwilling to lose the treasure which was almost within his grasp, he asks whence comes the unexpected darkness—

'The sun,' said a voice, as black shadows descend,  
'Has sunk in the sea where the river shall end;  
Unheeded the lapse of the stream and the light;  
Warns as vainly the sea heard distinct through  
the night?  
Hark the whispers that creep  
From the world of the deep,  
Which I hear with the oars, sounding solemn and  
steady.'

Then he hears floating 'down the length of  
the way,' from the distant ledges, from the  
quiet banks, from the noisy city, from the  
gamesters, and from the lips of his angel  
bride,—

An echo that wails back the wail of my sigh,  
As I murmur 'the ocean already!'—'ALREADY!'

One glimmer of light  
From the beacon's lone height,  
One look at the shore, and one stroke of the oar,  
And the river is lost in the ocean already!

The 'Mind and the Body' is the title of a piece which we do not remember to have seen before, and in which a conversation is carried on between 'a Mind of high rank' and a somewhat sickly Body. The two when united make up, it appears, 'a great man,' but at the period of the dialogue they have quarrelled, and each abuses the other for its unfair behaviour. The poem is intended to be highly facetious and satirical, but its chief characteristic is dulness. There is little to exhilarate in such lines as the following, in which the Mind replies to the Body's remark that the head 'could demolish the mind with a stroke:'

Grim thought to have scared Mr. Addison's Cato,  
When he sat in his dressing-gown reading his Plato!  
Does man nurse in his head an electric torpedo,  
Whose stroke could have hurled into rubbish the  
'Phædo!'

Vile Body! thou tyrant! thou worse than a Turk!  
If I must be thy slave—then, at least, let me work.

Though there is some humour in the description of the horror with which the Mind perceives, after the death of the 'great man' of whom it formed a moiety, that all the honours are paid to the undeserving and despicable Body.

Of the four other new poems, if new they be, the best seems to be that on 'Retirement,' but it, like many of its companions, can be understood only by a mental effort for which it offers no equivalent recompense.

'First Violets' form the subject of some of the prettiest lines in the book, but even here the stanzas containing a few simple and touching ideas arising from the sight of the flowers, and from the memories which they awaken, are separated by a number of philosophical remarks about avarice and ambition which put sentiment at once to flight. There is real feeling in the verses ending—

Oft by a flower, a leaf, in some loved book  
We mark the lines that charm us most;—Retrace  
Thy life; recall its loveliest passage;—Look,  
Dead violets keep the place.

But when the author pauses to apostrophize such abstractions as avarice, we feel that he is no longer in earnest. And so, in most of the other poems, he appears to be superior to the ordinary sensations of which his fellow men are conscious, and to devote himself to dissecting, and balancing, and analysing, to asking questions of the most difficult nature, and to answering them in language which it is hard to comprehend. Thus 'the reperusal of letters written in youth' chiefly serves to remind him that

In the great deeps of reason, heart, and soul,  
Through shine or storm still roll the tides  
unfailing;  
Each separate globule in the restless whole  
In daily airs exhaling.

And the pangs of separated lovers, the fever of jealousy, and the anguish of despair, express themselves only in quaint conceits, or in philosophical reflections. The poet appears to be always in search of a metaphor. Given a subject, such as the vanity of all things under the sun, or the duality of existence, or the inconstancy of fortune, he seems to aim at embracing within the limits of his poem as many images as he can collect, each of them typifying as far as possible and illustrating his original idea, but often arranged with little care, or allowed to follow each other like a flock of sheep. Sometimes the poem contains nothing more than a single conceit. Here is a specimen containing a sufficiently ingenious idea, but one which scarcely seems to deserve the proud position which it occupies:—

THE BUOY.

To and fro on the water swaying  
Over the pitiless ocean-grave,  
Just as lisomly lightly playing  
With the still or the stormy wave,  
Serious worth in its airy gladness,  
Sports the Buoy to the Anchor true:  
Faithless heart, wilt thou sink in sadness?  
Rise to tell of an anchor too.

Of the longer poems in the book, that on Milton is the best. One of the author's earliest productions, it is more than usually animated, and it is free from the sickly sentimentalism which renders 'Eva' and 'Constance' unreadable. The 'Leaves from History' are ambitious but somewhat inflated, and their verse sometimes renders prosaic what was really poetic before it was tortured into rhyme. Compare, for instance, the last words of André Chénier as they were really spoken—if, indeed, he ever said anything of the kind—with Sir Edward's pretentious paraphrase 'To die so young!' said the French poet; 'and there was something here!' he added, striking his forehead. He would have struck it with still greater energy if he had known that his words would be tortured into such stanzas as—

And yet my Genius speaks to me;  
The Pythian fires my brain;  
And tells me what my life should be;  
A Prophet—and in vain!

Sir Edward expresses a hope, in his preface, that what he has written in verse may, some day or other, become better known to his countrymen, but it is not on his merits as a lyric poet that his fame will ever depend. There is scarcely a stanza in his present volume which is likely to haunt a reader's ear, numerous as are the passages in his other writings which deserve to fix themselves on the memory. It is to the region of prose romance that we must turn, if we desire to find an explanation of the lustre which illumines the name of Bulwer Lytton.

LETTERS OF MARIA THERESA AND  
MARIE ANTOINETTE.

*Maria Theresia und Marie Antoinette. Ihr Briefwechsel während der Jahre 1770-1780.* Herausgegeben von Alfred Ritter von Arneth. (Paris: Ed. Jung-Treuttel; Wien: Wilhelm Braumüller; London: Williams & Norgate.)

[SECOND NOTICE.]

THE distrust which Marie Antoinette persistently entertained (in her maturer years) of M. de Provence, and which was justified by his subsequent conduct, began to appear in the year 1771, when she wrote to her mother as follows:—

La comtesse de Provence est revenue puis huit jours avec nous; elle n'est point marquée et presque pas rouge. On dit toute d'horreurs de son mari contre M. de Choiseul, mais je suis convaincue du contraire et nous continuons à vivre tous très-bien ensemble.

Here she is ready to disbelieve the general rumour against him, but the next letter tells a different story:—

Je me suis bien trompée sur ce que je vous ai mandé sur le comte de Provence; il s'est beaucoup déshonoré dans l'affaire de Mme. de Brancas: sa femme le suit en tout, mais ce n'est que par peur et par bêtise, étant, comme je le crois, fort malheureuse. Au reste je vis fort bien avec eux, quoique je me méfie de leur caractère qui n'est pas aussi sincère que le mien.

Pour le comte d'Artois, quoiqu'encre en éducation, il montre des sentiments d'honnêteté, qu'on ne peut pas croire qu'il les tienne de son gouverneur.

The insincerity and the immoralities of M. de Provence offended her, and although the Dauphin was more deficient than either of his brothers in external advantages she preferred him to them, not merely because he had claims upon her duty, but because she respected his integrity and his moral excellence. The laughing humour which led her to satirize the absurdities of other men, never betrayed her into mockery of her husband, though his clumsy figure, awkward gait, and slow speech offered tempting subjects for caricature. She attached herself to his virtues, and by her habitual deference and desire to please him, gained his affection. She was anxious for his welfare:—

J'ai bien profité du malheur de Schönborn pour M. le Dauphin. Je lui ai lu l'article devant mes tantes, qui l'ont prêché ainsi que moi. Il avait eu deux jours auparavant une bonne leçon par lui-même; en courant la chasse il n'a pas vu une grosse pierre glissante qui a fait tomber son cheval



# THE READER.

25 FEBRUARY, 1865.

de manière qu'il s'est trouvé dessous l'animal. Un de ses écuyers s'est risqué à se jeter de la jambe du cheval pour empêcher ses mouvements. Il en a eu un léger coup de pied qui lui a permis de continuer la chasse, ainsi que M. le Dauphin qui n'a eu aucune douleur. Il m'a fait l'amitié de venir me l'apprendre lui-même, de peur que je n'eusse de l'inquiétude.

It was in 1774 that Louis XV. died, and Marie Antoinette was then nineteen years of age—no longer a child, but grown into her full and blooming beauty, with an extraordinary grace of manner, and with a demeanour at once royal and gentle which excited admiration and commanded homage. She was the most beautiful of queens. She was the centre of all attention. The eminence of her position was dangerous. She was surrounded by adulation and envy. She prized the adulation as women do. She did not suspect the envy, for generous hearts do not; but her heart was too good to be insensible to the exigencies of her situation, and she and the Dauphin wept and prayed together when they were told of the event which lifted them to the throne. They wrote a joint letter to the empress on this occasion:—

Madame ma très-chère mère. Mercy vous aura mandé les circonstances de notre malheur; heureusement cette cruelle maladie a laissé au roi la tête présente jusqu'au dernier moment, et sa fin a été fort édifiante. Le nouveau roi paraît avoir le cœur de ses peuples; deux jours avant la mort du grand-père il a fait distribuer 200/m francs aux pauvres, ce qui a fait le plus grand effet. Depuis la mort il ne cesse de travailler et de répondre de sa main aux ministres qu'il ne peut pas encore voir, et à beaucoup d'autres lettres. Ce qu'il y a de sûr, c'est qu'il a le goût de l'économie et le plus grand désir de rendre ses peuples heureux. En tout il a autant d'envie que de besoin de s'instruire; j'espère que Dieu bénira sa bonne volonté. A few domestic details follow this passage, and then the king adds a few lines in his own hand to his wife's letter. Here are his words:—

Je suis fort aise de trouver une occasion, ma chère maman, de vous prouver ma tendresse et mon attachement. Je désirerais bien avoir de vos conseils dans ces moments-ci, qui sont si embarrassants. Je serais bien enchanté de pouvoir vous contenter et de vous marquer par là tout mon attachement et la reconnaissance que j'ai, que vous avez bien voulu m'accorder votre fille, dont je suis on ne saurait plus content.

Now the queen resumes:—

Le roi n'a pas voulu laisser partir ma lettre sans y écrire son petit mot. Je sens bien qu'il n'aurait pas trop fait en écrivant une lettre exprès; je supplie ma chère maman de l'excuser, vu le grand nombre d'affaires, dont il s'occupe beaucoup, et aussi en peu sa timidité et embarrass naturel. Vous voyez, ma chère maman, par la fin de son compliment, que quoiqu'il ait beaucoup de tendresse pour moi, il ne me gêne pas par ses fadeurs.

What pathos there is in the anticipation of happiness for her child expressed in the following words by Maria Theresa:—

Je ne saurais vous exprimer ma consolation et joie particulière sur tout ce qu'on entend de chez vous; tout l'univers est en extase. Il y a de quoi; un roi de 20 et une reine de 19, toutes leurs actions sont comblées d'humanité, générosité, prudence et grand jugement. La religion, les mœurs si nécessaires pour attirer la bénédiction de Dieu et pour contenir les peuples, ne sont pas oubliées, enfin je suis dans la joie de mon cœur et prie Dieu qu'il vous conserve ainsi pour le bien de vos peuples, pour l'univers, pour votre famille et pour votre vieille maman, que vous faites revivre.

A year afterwards, however, her letters assume a different tone, and she begins to fear, not without reason, that the young queen has not all the caution required in high places. It was true; and her very virtue was a snare and a peril to her. She repelled the wicked and thus she excited hatred. Her conscious purity disposed her to break down the high fence of etiquette which had surrounded vice in the French court and served to keep off scandal. Marie Antoinette, without any engrossing affection as yet to fill her heart, sought also somewhat too keenly the diversions natural to her age, and therefore Maria Theresa wrote in exhortation:—

Je vous avoue que j'ai vu avec grande peine dans des feuilles imprimées, que vous vous aban-

donnez plus que jamais à toutes sortes de courses au bois de Boulogne aux portes de Paris avec le comte d'Artois, sans que le roi y soit. Vous devez savoir mieux que moi que ce prince n'est nullement estimé, et que vous partagez ainsi ses torts. Il est si jeune, si étourdi; passe encore pour un prince; mais ces torts sont bien grands dans une reine plus âgée et dont on avait tout autre opinion. Ne perdez pas ce bien inestimable que vous aviez si parfaitement. Une princesse doit se faire estimer dans ses moindres actions, et point faire la petite maîtresse, ni en parure, ni dans ses amusements. On nous épêche trop, pour ne pas être toujours sur ses gardes.

Marie Antoinette replies to this that she does nothing without the king's approbation, and that her mother must not believe all that she hears:—

Ma chère maman peut compter que je n'entraînerai pas le roi dans de grandes dépenses; bien au contraire je refuse de moi-même les demandes qu'on me prie de lui faire pour de l'argent. Le roi ne pense pas à dépenser des millions en bâtiments, c'est une exagération comme sur bien des choses, et sur ma familiarité, qui ne pourrait être vue que de bien peu de monde. Ce n'est pas à moi à me juger, mais il me semble qu'il n'y a entre nous que l'air de bonne amitié et de gaieté de notre âge. Il est vrai que le comte d'Artois est bien vif et bien étourdi, mais je sais lui faire sentir ses torts. Pour mes tantes, on ne peut plus dire qu'elles me conduisent; et quant à Monsieur et à Madame, il s'en faut bien que je me confie entièrement à eux.

Je dois avouer ma dissipation et paresse pour les choses sérieuses. Je désire et espère me corriger peu à peu, et sans jamais me mêler d'intrigues, me mettre en état de répondre à la confiance du roi, qui vit toujours de bien bonne amitié avec moi.

After some comments upon the insincerity of M. de Provence, she indicates the moral superiority of the king:—

Si j'avais à choisir un mari entre les trois, je préférerais encore celui que le ciel m'a donné. Son caractère est vrai, et quoiqu'il est gauche, il a toutes les attentions et complaisances possibles pour moi.

Nous sommes dans une épidémie de chansons satyriques, on en a fait sur toutes les personnes de la cour, hommes et femmes, et la légèreté française s'est même étendue sur le roi. Pour moi, je n'ai pas été épargnée. Quoique les méchancetés plaisent assez dans ce pays-ci, celles-ci sont si plates et de si mauvais ton, qu'elles n'ont eu aucun succès, ni dans le public ni dans la bonne compagnie.

So early then as the year 1775 those libellous songs began to circulate among the corrupt nobility, which afterwards inspired the less criminal, because more ignorant, people with hatred of the queen. She little knew what the significance of these epigrams was to be when she wrote of them to her mother. The empress, however, was indignant, and expressed herself strongly against the frivolity of the French nation. The queen wrote in reply:—

Ma chère maman a toute raison contre la légèreté française, mais je suis vraiment affligée qu'elle en conçoive de l'aversion pour la nation. Le caractère est bien inconséquent, mais il n'est pas mauvais; les plumes et les langues disent bien des choses qui ne sont point dans le cœur. La preuve qu'ils ne haïssent pas, c'est qu'à la plus petite occasion ils disent du bien et louent même beaucoup plus qu'on ne mérite. Je viens de l'éprouver tout à l'heure. Il y a eu un incendie terrible au palais où on juge les procès à Paris. Le même jour je devais aller à l'opéra; je n'y ai point été et j'ai envoyé deux cent louis pour les besoins pressants. Du moment de l'incendie les mêmes gens qui ont répété les propos et chansons contre moi, m'élevaient jusqu'aux nues.

The following passage gives an instance (and there are many like it) of Marie Antoinette's kindness of heart:—

Mme. de Chabillant, fille de M. d'Aiguillon, est morte à Aiguillon, où elle était allée voir son père. Dès que j'ai su qu'elle était en danger, j'ai trouvé que si M. d'Aiguillon venait à perdre sa fille, il serait inhumain de l'obliger à rester dans l'endroit où sa fille serait morte. J'ai demandé au roi de lui laisser la liberté d'aller partout où il voudrait, excepté la cour; le roi me l'a accordé.

The advice against neglect of the duties of the toilet no longer needed to be enforced, and Maria Theresa found occasion now to exhort in the opposite direction. The following

letter is important, for it contains the censure of a trifling indiscretion concerning a bracelet, which being bruited about the court may have become generally known, and gathering, naturally, some additions of fiction in its course, may have served to give colour to those unjust suspicions which in the matter of the diamond necklace attributed to the queen such an inordinate love for jewels that she was supposed to barter for them her dignity and her virtue—all that most graced her crown and her womanhood.

Toutes les nouvelles de Paris annoncent que vous avez fait un achat de bracelets de 250/m. livres, que pour cet effet vous avez dérangé vos finances et chargé de dettes, et que vous avez pour y remédier donné de vos diamants à très-bas prix, et qu'on suppose après que vous entraînez le roi à tant de profusions inutiles, qui depuis quelque temps augmentent de nouveau et mettent l'état dans la détresse où il se trouve. Je crois ces articles exagérés, mais j'ai cru qu'il était nécessaire que vous soyez informée des bruits qui courent, vous aimant si tendrement. Ces sortes d'anecdotes percent mon cœur, surtout pour l'avenir; mais voilà deux autres circonstances qui m'ont comblée de consolation. On attribue à vous les bons procédés du comte d'Artois vis-à-vis de sa femme, et on ne peut assez dire de ceux que vous aviez pour elle. Je reconnais en cela ma bonne et tendre fille, de même dans l'histoire de cette bonne grand' maman dont vous avez pris un enfant: toutes ces anecdotes me font revivre, mais celle des diamants m'a humiliée. Cette légèreté française avec toutes ces extraordinaires parures! Ma fille, ma chère fille, la première reine, le deviendrait elle-même! Cette idée m'est insupportable!

Marie Antoinette's reply is that of a child who is ashamed but will not confess it, and has less than her usual frankness in its style:—

Je n'ai rien à dire sur les bracelets; je n'ai pas cru qu'on pût chercher à occuper la bonté de ma chère maman de pareilles bagatelles.

The rejoinder of the empress looks as if it were written in the spirit of prophecy: it was the result of long experience acting upon a sagacious judgment. It deserves to be read with attentive reverence:—

Vous passez fort légèrement sur les bracelets, mais cela n'est par tel que vous voulez l'envisager; une souveraine s'avilit en se parant, et encore plus, si elle pousse cela à des sommes si considérables et en quel temps? Je ne vois que trop cet esprit de dissipation; je ne puis me taire, vous aimant pour votre bien, non pour vous flatter. Ne perdez pas par des frivolités le crédit que vous vous êtes acquis au commencement; on sait le roi très-moderé, ainsi la faute resterait seule sur vous. Je ne souhaite survivre à un tel changement. Je suis toute à vous.

This letter is dated September 2, 1776.

In the year 1777 began that habit of evil report upon every proceeding of the queen which finally degraded her name, which was the fruit of envy, distorting truth, and which Marie Antoinette, relying on her actual innocence, disregarded too much. The empress warned her of these rumours. The queen was surprised to the point of indignation that her mother could for a moment lend her ear to them. Some painful emotions were awakened between them, and there was a short interval of discomfort and irritation, which was happily ended by the Emperor Joseph Maximilian's visit to his sister. As an inmate of her home, seeing with his own eyes all her ways, reading with his clear mind all her thoughts, he was able to take to his mother a faithful account of the young queen, and it was such as to allay the maternal anxiety. Marie Antoinette's grief at her brother's departure is touching, and she expresses a gratitude which she never afterwards forgot for the king's sympathy on this occasion:—

Madame ma très-chère mère. Il est vrai que le départ de l'empereur m'a laissé un vide dont je ne puis revenir; j'étais si heureuse pendant ce peu de temps, que tout cela me paraît un songe dans ce moment-ci. Mais tout ce qui n'en sera jamais un pour moi, c'est tous les bons conseils et avis qu'il m'a donnés et qui sont gravés à jamais dans mon cœur.

J'avouerai à ma chère maman qu'il m'a donné une chose que je lui ai bien demandée et qui me fait le plus grand plaisir: c'est des conseils par écrit qu'il m'a laissés. Cela fait ma lecture principale dans le moment présent, et si jamais (ce dont



je doute) je pouvais oublier ce qu'il m'a dit, j'aurais ailleurs ce papier toujours devant moi qui me rappellerait bientôt à mon devoir.

Ma chère maman aura vu par le courrier qui est parti hier combien le roi s'est bien conduit dans les derniers moments que mon frère a été ici. En tout j'ose assurer à ma chère maman que je le connais bien et qu'il a été véritablement affecté de ce départ. Comme il n'a pas toujours les formes pour lui, il lui est moins aisé de prouver à l'extérieur ses sentiments; mais tout ce que j'en vois me prouve qu'il est bien véritablement attaché à mon frère et qu'il a beaucoup d'amitié pour lui. Dans le moment de ce départ, où j'étais le plus au désespoir, le roi a eu des attentions et des recherches de tendresse pour moi que je n'oublierai de ma vie, et qui m'y attacheraient si je ne l'étais déjà.

And Maria Theresa's letter in reply contains the expression of Joseph's sentiments concerning his sister:—

L'empereur a été touché de vous goûter, il trouvait une grande douceur dans votre conversation et amitié. Je ne le trahis pas, en mettant ses propres paroles, que je ne pourrais jamais rendre si bien:

'J'ai quitté Versailles avec peine, attaché vraiment à ma soeur; j'ai trouvé une espèce de douceur de vie, à laquelle j'avais renoncé, mais dont je vois que le goût ne m'avait pas quitté. Elle est aimable et charmante; j'ai passé des heures et des heures avec elle, sans m'apercevoir comment elles s'écoulaient. Sa sensibilité au départ était grande, sa contenance bonne; il m'a fallu toute ma force pour trouver des jambes pour m'en aller.'

A remarkable passage upon the death of the Cardinal de la Roche-Aymon occurs in a letter from Marie Antoinette, dated 19th August 1777, indicating her distaste to Louis de Rohan, whose insane passion for her she was afterwards accused of encouraging for the sake of the fatal necklace; although she positively refused the same necklace as a present when her husband offered it to her. It was not only an act of injustice but an act of stupidity in the French nation to accept the gross fabrication as truth:—

Nous touchons au moment où le cardinal de la Roche-Aymon va mourir et que le prince Louis aura sa place. Je ne cache pas à ma chère maman que cela me fait beaucoup de peine, et le roi lui-même n'en est pas bien aise; il a été horriblement trompé sur cela. Voilà le malheur d'être bien jeune et de n'avoir personne de raisonnable pour se conduire.

The inclination towards a life of mere amusement which Maria Theresa dreaded for her daughter was subdued by the prospect of maternity which opened to her in the year 1778, and the troubles which at that time disturbed the Austrian Empire also gave a graver turn to her thoughts. She suffered bitterly when the king, swayed by opposing counsels, appeared to vacillate in his alliance with Austria:—

J'ai eu ce matin une scène bien touchante avec ce roi. Ma chère maman sait que jamais je n'ai attribué à son cœur tout ce qui se passait, mais à son extrême faiblesse et au peu de confiance qu'il avait en lui-même. Aujourd'hui donc il est venu chez moi; il m'a trouvé si triste et allarmée qu'il en a été touché jusqu'aux larmes. J'avoue que j'en étais bien contente; cela me prouve toute son amitié pour moi, et j'espère qu'enfin il prendra son parti de lui-même pour se conduire en vrai et bon allié.

In the warmth of this sympathy the empress felt the true heart of her Antoinette:—

Ce que vous me mandez d'un entretien avec le roi, m'a tiré les larmes de consolation, mais encore plus ce que Mercy me marque de vos chères larmes, et combien vous étiez touchée. Je reconnais bien ce cœur admirable de ma chère Antoinette! L'idée de ne vouloir plus intervenir aux spectacles, est bien touchante à votre âge et dans un pays où on croit ne pouvoir vivre sans cela; mais je vous prie de suivre le conseil là-dessus de Mercy. On peut être triste, mais jamais abattu.

The troubles of the empire did not diminish the maternal interest of Maria Theresa:—

Madame ma chère fille. Je serai fort courte; celle-ci vous trouvera bien près de votre terme. Je compte toujours entre le 8 et le 15 que Dieu nous accorde la consolation de vous savoir délivrée. Tout le reste est indifférent; les fils suivront les filles. On dit que vous comptez nourrir vous-

même votre enfant; cela dépend du roi et du médecin; j'avoue à leur place je ne vous l'accorderais pas, c'est très-bien de vous offrir.

The birth of a daughter filled the heart of Marie Antoinette with a mother's joy, and afforded new hope and satisfaction to the empress. But not long after her confinement the queen caught the measles, and this was a subject of anxiety; a few lines from Marie Antoinette on this occasion tell her affection both for her mother and her husband:—

Nous nous écrivons tous les jours; je l'ai vu hier de dessus un balcon en plein air. Ma chère mère permet-elle que je l'embrasse? Je ne suis pas assez forte pour écrire davantage.

The queen recovered from her illness. The empress signed a peace with Prussia. Fortune's hands were full:—

Madame ma très-chère mère. De quel bonheur ne jouis-je pas en apprenant que cette paix tant désirée est enfin faite! Elle était bien due à ma chère maman, et je désirais bien de pouvoir me flatter que nous y avons contribué d'ici. Certainement mon plus grand soin sera désormais à soutenir l'union entre mes deux pays (si je puis m'exprimer ainsi). J'en ai trop senti le besoin, et le malheur et l'inquiétude que j'ai éprouvée dans l'année dernière, ne peuvent s'exprimer. Mais je suis née à devoir tout à ma chère maman, et je lui dois encore la tranquillité qui renaît dans mon âme, par sa bonté, sa douceur, et j'ose dire, sa patience envers ce pays-ci. J'ai dit au roi les bontés de ma chère maman; il en est très-reconnaissant, et m'a bien chargé de l'en remercier.

And so we draw to our close, happy that M. Arneth's volume ends in a day of sunshine, and that the mother and daughter whose intimate correspondence is now published for their honour, had no foreboding then of the fate that was to come.

## A CORNISH POEM.

*Gwreans an Bys. The Creation of the World, a Cornish Mystery.* Edited, with a Translation and Notes, by Whitley Stokes, Esq. (Williams & Norgate, 1864.)

DOLLY PENTREATH, the last speaker of Cornish, has long been dead; and as her knowledge of her native tongue extended not to talking it, but only to swearing in it, we can hardly account her decease a loss to decency, however some may consider it a loss to the science of language. We doubt, however, whether the continued existence of Cornish would have been a gain to linguistics, seeing the state into which it had fallen in the last records of it. Its loss of vital power, its large borrowings from English, must have gone on till it became of no use to the philologist, and only a nuisance and hindrance to all social and political improvers. For, once given a dominant race with a higher civilization than, and in the same country as, a less cultivated race, forming part of the same nation,—and the existence of differing languages, nay of different dialects, does become a nuisance and a hindrance, stopping the schoolmaster, stopping the influence of the press and public teachers and speakers, perpetuating old prejudices, and isolating the users of the strange tongue and dialect from the rest of their fellow-men. It would have been a gain every way to Ireland, no less than to Wales and the Highlands, had their idioms disappeared three hundred years ago, and the dominant English been adopted as their mother tongue: the nations would have advanced more together, and the hatreds of race been forgotten in the oneness of the common speech. Let these languages of minorities leave sufficient record of themselves in their purity, for science' sake, and then let them get themselves buried and put out of hearing as speedily as possible.

We are glad, therefore, that it is of a dead Cornish that Mr. Stokes—thanks to the Philological Society—puts before us another fifth of the extant records. In 1861 he printed in the Transactions of the same Society another fifth of those records, a poem of 259 stanzas, of four lines each, rhyming together, on the Passion of Christ. Mr. Edwin Norris, his guide, philosopher, and friend in these matters, had previously in 1859 given to the world three

Cornish dramas, *Passio Domini Nostri, Origo Mundi*, and *Resurrectio Domini*. These, with the Cornish Vocabulary in the Cotton MSS., constitute, we believe, the whole of our Cornish remains. Mr. Stokes's texts are not published for the first time, in one sense, though in another they are; for Davies Gilbert's prior editions of them in 1826 and 1827 were so ludicrously full of mistakes—eight in every four lines—that the language was rather Gilbertian than Cornish, and Zeuss was led into many errors by it. Mr. Keigwin's translations which accompanied Gilbert's texts were not much better than their originals; so that between the two the student of Cornish had little chance of getting at either the Keltic words or their meaning. Mr. Stokes has therefore given with both of his texts revised translations; and though he has two or three pages of errata to each of his thin volumes, yet with the help of the scholars whose eyes ran over his sheets—Siegfried, Norris, Williams, &c.—we may rest assured that his texts are as trustworthy as the present state of our knowledge of the language can make them. The notes to his earlier text, 'The Passion,' are full of valuable matter, Keltic as well as comparative; and the absence of parade about his discoveries is quite refreshing. You come, in a small-type note, on an announcement like the following, as if it were 'of no consequence,' as Mr. Toots would say:—

The existence of a genitive plural in Cornish, Welsh, and Breton, has hitherto been overlooked. In form it is, as was to be expected, identical with the nominative singular. The following examples of this genitive are taken from the poem now published, &c. &c.

But we pass on to the 'Mystery' last published. It describes 'The Creation of the Worlde, with Noyes Flude.' As the process of creation was beyond the resources of the stage-managers of early days, the difficulty is got over by making the man who acts the Father in Heaven say that all the things *shall* be made. Then Lucifer, who was 'all the lanthorn of heaven,' is cast with all the rebels, 'boy and girl,' into Hell by Michael and his angels; and Adam is created, that he and his offspring may fill their places. There is no stage direction as to how Adam is made, but we have a stage order, 'Let Paradyce be fynely made,' and the text then says, 'Adam, stand up clearly, and turn to flesh and to blood.' Then says the stage-direction, 'Let the Father put Adam into Paradyce.' After which comes the making of Eve, and the consultation of the devils how to tempt her. Lucifer says he will do it, only he is so ugly defaced; on which Beelzebub tells him—

'Therefore seek some gin,  
Or the journey will not be worth an egg.'

But instead of getting the gin, Lucifer enters into the fair worm Serpent, with a face like a virgin, and accomplishes his purpose. The guilty pair are driven out of Paradise. Cain and Abel are born, and go to sacrifice to God. Abel resolves to burn the tithe of his good corn, but Cain will not, 'dolt-head Abel; brambles, thorns, and dry cow-dung will make 'a great bush of smoke,' and that will do. Abel remonstrates, but says Cain—

'Be silent, hang thee! . . .  
Thou big-bellied fool . . .  
I will strike thee, rogue, rascal,  
That thou fall on the top of thy back.'

Cain is cursed for the murder, but seems rather pleased that he has slain 'Abel the big-head,' and goes off 'into the farness' with his wife-sister Calmana. Seth is born; Adam dies and goes to Limbo, disappointing the devils who desire to carry that churl and whoreson to Hell. Enoch appears, Jared, and Noah; and the latter is well ridiculed by Tubal as an old churl, peeled-head, an evil colt, and a very fool, for talking about the flood and his ship. The remainder of the story may be told by the stage directions: 'The arck redy, and all maner of beastis and fowles to be putt in the arck. Let rayne appeare. A raven and a culver ready. Let the raven fle and the culver after. The culver cometh with a branche of olyf in her mouth. An alter redy very fayre. Som good church songes to be songe at the



alter, and frankensens. A Rayne bowe to appeare.' And the Play is over, with a last exhortation—

Minstrels, do ye pipe to us,  
That we may together dance,  
As is the manner and the jest.

Such were the ways of Cornishmen in the good old times. Let us thank William Jordan, who 'on the XIIth of August 1611' put down the record for us.

The first thing that strikes a reader in the language is the very large number of words borrowed from English. In four lines on p. 104 we find *order*, *incressya*, *accomptya*, *apoyntyys*; on p. 168, opened on at random, are *purpose*, *distructyon*, *destryes*, *downtya*, *offendya*, *maner*, *voydya* (avoid), *peril*, *recordys*, *wondrys largya* (wondrous large), *pillar*, *poyn-tya* (appoint), *purpos*, *bryck* (and brick), *mar-bell*, twice, *sauement* (savement), *consumys*. Mr. Stokes notices this; also the loss of inflexion, as *me ew henvis*, I am named, for the earlier *y-m gyhwyrr*; the corruption of *s* into soft *g*, *n* into *dn*, *m* into *bm*, &c. These are all evidences of a decaying tongue. The notes are not so full as in the first-edited text, owing to Mr. Stokes's departure for India, where a brilliant and rapid career at Madras has carried him to the Secretaryship of the Legislative Council at Calcutta; but for his detailed criticism we refer our readers to the volume itself, only extracting as a specimen of the language of this 'Mystery' the cardinal and ordinal numbers that occur in it, as far as ten:—

Cardinals.	Ordinals.
1. idn, onyn, wonyn . . .	kensa, kynsa
2. deaw, dew, dyw, de . .	second
3. try, tayr, fem. . . . .	tryssa
4. . . . .	peswera
5. pypm, pympe . . . . .	pypmas
6. whea . . . . .	
7. . . . .	sythvas
8. . . . .	
9. naw, nawe . . . . .	
10. deak, deag . . . . .	degvas;

and the Cornish of the stanza beginning 'Minstrels,' given above, in which the reader will recognise *pipe*, *dance*, *manner*, and *jest*:—

mynstrels growgh theny peba  
may hallan warbarthe downssya  
del ew an vaner han geys.

#### HISTORY OF THE WORLD.

*A History of the World from the Earliest Records to the Present Time.* By Philip Smith, B.A., one of the principal Contributors to the Dictionaries of Greek and Roman Antiquities, Biography, and Geography. Vol. II. Ancient History, from the Accession of Philip of Macedon to the Roman Conquest of Carthage and Asia. Illustrated by Maps and Plans. (Walton and Maberly.)

**A**MONG the most pleasing reminiscences of the historic studies of our early days are those left by the perusal of the 'Ancient History' of the good Abbé Rollin, who, with all his prolixity and his shortcomings as to accuracy and critical acumen, charms the young student by the air of candour and good faith which pervades his style, and by his evidently sincere desire to guide his readers into the paths of wisdom and virtue. Besides, there is a romance about these grand old empires of the 'gorgeous east,' with their 'barbaric pearl and gold,'—an Arabian Nights' sort of fascination about the story of their magnificence and the vicissitudes of their career, which never fails to tell powerfully on the youthful imagination. Even yet we almost feel disposed to envy Mr. Smith's happy lot in being enabled, with such invaluable aids as are now to be had, to devote his time and energies to such attractive researches as have already resulted in the issue of two volumes of his 'History of the World.' The first volume, which we noticed some time ago, told excellently well the story of early civilization in the East, and of the marvellous development of the human intellect in Greece down to that important turning-point in the 'History of the World,' the accession of Philip of Macedon. In that just issued we have delineated with equal success the successive steps of the Macedonian and Roman conquests, so fruitful

in great events and great characters, and possessing so important a bearing on the subsequent career of the more civilized nations. With a view to the completeness of the work as a history of the human race in the several phases of its onward development, our author, as he tells us, has been compelled to somewhat enlarge the space allotted to the classical nations and those peoples with whom they came into contact, so as to make the two volumes now completed to contain 'as full an account as the general reader can desire of the course of ancient history down to the epoch of the virtual subjection of the civilized world to the Roman Republic.' In the third volume we are to have the Ancient History completed down to the time of Charlemagne, 'the true epoch at which the Roman Empire was broken up into the states of Modern Europe.' By selecting this later epoch as marking the termination of ancient and the beginning of mediæval history instead of the ordinary division at the Fall of the Western Empire, our author says, quoting the words of Dr. Arnold, 'We shall have passed through the chaos which followed the destruction of the old Western Empire, and shall have seen its several elements, combined with others which in that great convulsion had been mixed with them, organized into their new form.' This arrangement, while tending to preserve the unity of the entire work, will not necessitate its extension beyond eight volumes, the number originally contemplated.

About a fourth of the present volume is devoted to the history of the rise and extension of the Macedonian supremacy under Philip and Alexander, and the apportioning of Alexander's vast empire among his generals, which resulted in the founding of the Hellenistic kingdoms. The events of this important section of the world's history are narrated by our author with his usual clearness and power of condensation. In tracing the concatenation of political events and elucidating the details of military operations, he has succeeded in imparting to his readers that clear understanding of the subject which could result only from his thoroughly understanding it himself. The plan he has marked out for himself precludes him from entering upon philosophical reflection and speculation to any great extent, otherwise he might have been tempted to linger longer in meditative mood over this portion of his work. The 'third kingdom of brass' of Nebuchadnezzar's dream exercised a powerful influence for good on the destinies of the human race. 'Macedonia's madman' was not without a certain method in his madness, at least if we give him credit for the sentiments attributed to him by one of his biographers. 'Conceiving that he was sent by God to be an umpire between all and to unite all together, he reduced by arms those whom he could not conquer by persuasion, and formed of a hundred diverse nations one single universal body, mingling, as it were, in one cup of friendship the customs, the marriages, and the laws of all. He desired that all should regard the world as their common country, the good as fellow-citizens and brethren, the bad as aliens and enemies; that the Greek should no longer be distinguished from the foreigner by arms or costume, but that every good man should be esteemed an Hellene, every evil man a barbarian.' That such ideas were evolved by the Macedonian conquest admits of no question, whatever might be the sentiments of Alexander himself. If his aims were less advanced than those which find expression in the pages of Plutarch, he was at all events an instrument in the hands of Providence in disseminating those ideas of universal brotherhood destined afterwards to receive a higher and more spiritual development, through the leaven of Greek civilization and the fusion and harmonization of diverse phases of religious thought. Our author does not, however, altogether overlook this view of Alexander's enterprise as a step in the history of the world. 'The time,' he observes, 'had come for a great change upon both continents. Greece had for the time done her work; and her existing race, both of people and statesmen, had proved

themselves unworthy to enjoy longer the liberty of which she had given the pattern to coming ages. However great her loss, it was an unspeakable gain to Asia to have the yoke of an effete despotism broken off her neck, and the language of Homer and Sophocles, the political wisdom of Pericles and Thucydides, the philosophy of Plato and Aristotle, the art of Phidias and Apelles, spread from the Ægean to the Caspian, from the Nile to the Indus. Above all, the general diffusion of the Greek language through the East proved a powerful instrument for the rapid spread of Christianity.'

Under what new aspects we should have had to contemplate the world's history, had Alexander lived to carry out his plans of conquest, it is now of little use to speculate. Such was not the world's destiny. The 'bright star of empire' had already begun to glitter far in the west over the seven hills of Rome. While the fruits of Alexander's conquests in the East were maturing under the sway of his successors, and Alexandria and Antioch were diffusing cosmopolitan sentiments in politics, and developing a philosophical and religious eclecticism, a power was growing up on the banks of the Tiber fitted and destined to subdue and mould the world to its will. Already so deeply indebted to Greek enterprise and to Greek literature, philosophy, and art, the world was to profit still further by 'Roman energy, Roman law, and the stern Roman sense of duty.' This 'Western Power,' of little note at the date of Alexander's death, but 'which was destined at length to raise a universal empire on the ruins of the eastern monarchies of the free states of Greece, and of the commercial oligarchy of Carthage, combined in itself the strongest points in the systems that it superseded. A material force, if not so vast, yet truly greater than that wielded by any Oriental despot, was regulated by political principles, of which a regard for law was the most conspicuous, and all was consolidated by the mighty bond of an aristocratic government based on a patriarchal foundation. If the Hellenic republics were fitted to give the freest scope to personal and political liberty, the polity of Rome was an instrument specially adapted to achieve imperial power abroad by subordinating individual freedom to the concentrated action of the State.' Our author, availing himself of the results of modern investigations, and especially of the labours of such men as Niebuhr and Mommsen, traces the rise and growth of the Roman power, until, by its conquest of the countries forming the seat of ancient civilization, it attained the climax of its greatness. Here his knack of 'picking and packing words,' as honest John Bunyan expresses it, is conspicuous. In spite of the mass of details which he must needs weave into his narrative, it is far from being dry or wearisome. With the élan of a captain of light infantry or corporal of Zouaves, he conducts his readers over Italy's physical geography and the traditions of its primitive populations, Japygian, Italian, and Etruscan; the story of early Rome and its kings, with the pretty legends therewith connected—the vicissitudes of the succeeding Patrician Republic, from the stern intimation to the Tarquins to seek employment elsewhere, to the sad day when Rome had to save its Capitol by paying to the Gauls a thousand pounds of gold, not to speak of the overweight—the Latin and Samnite wars, and the more desperate encounter with the formidable Pyrrhus. Pursuing his narrative, he comes to the stirring period of Rome's struggles with the Carthaginian and the Greek, and the ever memorable deeds of Hannibal and Scipio and Emilius Paulus. He pauses at length at the death of Scipio Africanus, the Younger, when the seven-hilled city has become mistress of the situation. It must be said that Mr. Smith does not indolently acquiesce in the statements which have long passed current with ordinary historians, but with the aid of the most recent critical researches endeavours to explode error and evolve fact in every case. Thus he shows how Alexander's career in India came abruptly to an end, not because there were no regions



left to conquer, but because his army, both officers and men, resolutely refused to advance any farther; and his moody grief arose from his being 'made to feel the curb which dependence on fellow-men imposes on the strongest will.' So also Hannibal's reverses after the wintering at Capua, a measure supposed to have proved so fatal to the efficiency of his army, are shown to have been due rather to the marked revival of Roman energy after the disastrous field of Cannæ than to any effeminacy in the Carthaginian veterans resulting from a winter's repose in the most luxurious city of Italy. Throughout the work are abundant traces of independent thought and investigation; and though in regard to particular countries it cannot be made to supersede special histories as those of Grote and Thirlwall, Niebuhr, and Mommsen, yet, as giving a clear and symmetrical conception of the better known portions of the world's history as a whole, and as quite meeting the wants of that most numerous class of readers who desire simply to be generally well-informed and intelligent in historical matters, without becoming learned historical critics, it is a work of great interest and value.

*The Life of Thorwaldsen, collated from the Danish of J. M. Thiele.* By Rev. M. R. Barnard, B.A. (Chapman and Hall.)—This little book should rather have been called 'Anecdotes from the Life of Thorwaldsen' than have had imposed upon it the title it actually bears. A dry catalogue of the works of the great Danish sculptor is given; but there is no discussion of their merits and hardly any account of the circumstances of their production. Nor is the execution of the design of abridging from a larger work so as to retain its most amusing features sufficiently good to carry along with it its own justification. We will not call the volume a cold collation; but Mr. Barnard certainly does not set before the reader substantial matter enough to satisfy the most moderate appetite in quest of information about the very eminent subject of Thiele's biography.

*Aus alter und neuer Zeit. Geschichtsbibliothek für Leser aller Stände. Erster Band. Geschichte der Araber bis auf den Sturz des Chalifats von Bagdad.* Von Gustav Flügel. (Baensch, Leipzig, 1864.)—This is the first volume of an announced series of books, and gives a very encouraging promise of what is forthcoming. It is a handbook of Saracen History within the limits indicated by the title, and available for such as have neither leisure nor inclination to prosecute the subject further. Like any other handbook it deals cursorily with each separate passage, and does not aim at answering all the questions which must be awakened in the reader's mind; but it is well proportioned, and seemingly well digested, while its author's high reputation as an Arabic scholar may we hope be accepted as a voucher for its accuracy. It thus supplies a rather important void. The general reader, it may be suspected, has none but very general notions of Mohammed, Mohammedanism, and the early Saracenic history. And yet the importance of that great passage of bygone time, both in its bearings on the past and present state of the world, can scarcely be exaggerated. The noble sketch of it by Gibbon supplies, indeed, an invaluable outline, and will be found enough on the whole for all but students. Yet there is an advantage in being presented with the subject in a single volume especially devoted to it, and the present acquaintance with the east and eastern things, larger and more diffused than any existing in Gibbon's time, will find a good deal to gratify it in this book. Mohammedan history divides itself, no doubt with many collateral ramifications, into three great heads:—1st, The time of Mohammed himself and the first Chaliphs, all of whom had been his contemporaries and companions; 2ndly, The subsequent Chaliphate, in which the commanders of the Faithful surrounded themselves with the splendours and luxuries natural to those who ruled over half the civilized world; and 3rdly, The destruction of the Chaliphate and sway of the alien Turks, on whose support it had fatally learned to lean. Of these the first is most interesting as a phase of religion. When Abu Bekr, Omar, Othman, and Ali are called Chaliphs, all impressions of the title derived from Bagdad and Harun al Raschid must be dismissed. They were grave livers, severe religious men, believing themselves to have a solemn work to do, and denying themselves every

luxury of the world but one. History presents us with scarcely any spectacle corresponding to Omar, when lord of Arabia, Syria, and Egypt, sleeping on the floor of a mosque, no better attired than the beggars around him. This is the religious period of the Chaliphate, but not the civilizing. Whether Omar really ordered the burning of the Alexandrian library or not, Herr Flügel thinks that he was quite capable of it, as he attached value to no book but the Koran. The second epoch is of widely different character. The unity of the Chaliphate has now disappeared, and in proportion as the title was held by different and opposing monarchs, did they display themselves mainly as monarchs. This is the period when Saracen influence became promotive of civilization; the period when Bagdad and Cordova were not more distinguished by their material splendour than as centres of learning and intelligence. Turkish Mohammedanism has had a character of its own, on which we need say nothing at present, and the long period of its sway lies outside the limits of Herr Flügel's book. For that book, we cordially thank the author, and assure our readers that, however warrantably they may despair of attaining a learned mastery of the subject, it will present them with a good outline of the great period of Saracen ascendancy, while Mr. Taylor's 'History of Mohammedanism,' a very able little volume, published by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge in 1834, will give them a lively view of the religion which animated that ascendancy. Erudition in the former branch of inquiry is plainly beyond the reach of all of whom Oriental study is not the main occupation; but an adequate acquaintance with the latter ought surely to be gained by every educated man. Not merely has Mohammedanism as a religion been a mighty spiritual force in the past, but it is a force which is very far from having spent itself even now; and we believe that it is exercising a reforming and elevating influence in regions of Africa which are at present quite beyond the reach of Christian missions, or any good in the power of Europe to confer.

*The Conversion of the Roman Empire: the Boyle Lectures for the year 1864. Delivered at the Chapel Royal, Whitehall.* By Charles Merivale, B.D., Rector of Lawford; Chaplain to the Speaker of the House of Commons. (Longman.)—The afternoon discourses which were delivered last summer at Whitehall, as the eight Boyle Lectures for the year, probably struck the sermon-hearing public as somewhat unusual in subject and style. They were, in fact, historical lectures delivered from the pulpit, rather than directly didactic or doctrinal compositions. Yet, for the purpose for which the Boyle Lecture was founded, no topic could have been more appropriately chosen than that of the conversion of the Roman Empire, or rather an exposition of that preparatory condition of men's minds under the Roman Empire which led to its conversion.

As a classical scholar, the historian of 'The Romans under the Empire' has probably few equals in England at the present day. His familiarity with the history and literature of the first three centuries of our era in particular is well known. He appreciates with more than common sympathy the state of mind of those sages whose destiny it was to hover in the limbo which intervened between the decaying vitality of Paganism and the fresh energies of Christian conviction. He discards the old line of theological apology which consisted in pointing out the contrast between Christian doctrine and Pagan corruption as the strongest proof of the divine authority of the former. He chooses rather to show how the degree of moral truth attained by the meditations of the highest minds, and displayed not only in their writings but in the social and political tendencies of their age, was calculated to make them accept with greater readiness the new teaching.

Mr. Merivale's first six lectures are devoted entirely to this exposition of the state of feeling among the heathens. The last two, in a summary necessarily short and imperfect, point out the answer which Christian doctrine made to the questions of the heathen, and the moral effect which the example of the early believers had in recommending their faith to the acceptance of a public thus predisposed to inquiry and loosened from the tie of old traditions. Not only its learning and judgment, but the powerful eloquence of its language will cause this volume to be regarded as one of the most valuable contributions of the present day to the treasury of Christian literature.

*Madagascar and its People.* By Lyons M'Leod, Esq., F.R.G.S., late British Consul at Mozambique; author of 'Eastern Africa,' &c. (London: Long-

man & Co. 1865.)—Mr. M'Leod, for many years past, has devoted himself to African subjects. First, as the author of a proposed steam launch expedition to the upper waters of the Niger, which was ably planned and strongly supported, but never carried into effect. Secondly, as consul to Mozambique, where perhaps zeal, or over-zeal, in his endeavour to check the slave-trade, brought him into collision with the French and the Portuguese in the 'Charles et Georges' affair, and lost him his post. Since then he has been an active writer on African topics and promoter of African commercial schemes. We are therefore prepared to welcome from so old a hand whatever he has to tell us of the African island of Madagascar, which lies just opposite to the scene of his former consulate.

His volume contains the history of the island, from its discovery onward to the events of last year. The bulk of it is compiled from Owen, Guillaum, Ellis, and other standard writers; the later news is obtained from letters published in the *Missionary Intelligencer*, and from private communications. The particulars of the revolution in 1863 are fully given. He shows how it was brought on by the failure of an attempt to massacre the Christians, and how it resulted in the substitution of constitutional authority for the ancient despotism. Mr. M'Leod concludes his volume with an analysis of the claims of the French and the English respectively on various parts of Madagascar.

*A Lady's Walks in the South of France in 1863.* By Mary Eyre, author of 'The Queen's Pardon,' &c. (London: Richard Bentley, New Burlington Street. 1865.)—If the authoress of this book on the Pyrenees had written in brighter spirits and with less unimportant detail, she might have given us an interesting and a standard work. As it is, she harps upon the petty annoyances of her dreary poverty, and on other dismals of life, until the freshness of her narrative is utterly sapped. She describes herself travelling with a small hand bag, that contains all her luggage for a year, practising every kind of narrow and continual economy, to all of which the reader is made privy much against his will. The characteristic feature of the book is, that the circumstances of the author threw her, for the most part, among the trading classes and the peasantry, of whose family life the ordinary tourist has little inkling. The narrative of her experiences would have made very good reading if she had only accepted her lot with cheerfulness, and entered into the ways of her acquaintances with more geniality. But she can never forget herself. Everything is tinged with the tacit reflection that she has been born in an upper rank, and must assert the fact. The reader will find the last half of the book by far the best. It is filled with legends and superstitions, which afford the crude materials for many excellent stories. The people of the Pyrenees are described as being more grossly superstitious than it easy to credit.

*The Englishwoman in India; containing Information for the use of Ladies proceeding to, or residing in the East Indies, on the subjects of their Outfit, Furniture, Housekeeping, the Care of Children, Duties and Wages of Servants, Management of the Stables, and Arrangements for Travelling; to which are added Receipts for Indian Cookery.* By a Lady Resident. (Smith, Elder, & Co.)—The title page of this book, which we have copied word for word, reads like a 'table of contents,' and sufficiently explains the object of this small and well got up book. The work seems rather to have been written from memory in England than from passing experience in India. Many useful hints may be found in it, but the authoress has attempted rather too much. She may be taken as an authority on the number of times an infant should be fed in a day, on the particular duties of the various servants, and on housekeeping generally, and several of her cookery receipts are excellent. On the other hand, habits differ as much, nay more, in the East than the West, and it is useless to lay down the number of coats or gowns, shirts or chemises that must be taken to India. Electro plate is wisely recommended instead of silver, and it is sound advice to buy saddlery, lamps, dinner service, rifles, guns and pistols, and groceries, in England. But instead of 'books being a mere incumbrance,' they are most invaluable, and their absence begets habits of indolence, which is often one cause of ill health. The authoress seems to have been most unfortunate in her choice of servants, if they really took 'fine damask napkins to clean the lamp shades and the best china tureen to wash up the dinner things in.' Indian servants are, for the most part, just as good as the ordinary run of English servants, and in India itself, far more useful. Indian cooks are far better servants than 'plain cooks' at home



and the 'unwearying patience and gentleness of all domestics with children,' is certainly one great point in favour of the native, and so is the absence of what we know as 'flunkeyism.' Our experience differs from the authoress's totally, with reference to horses, she finding that the care of the stable falls to the lady, and that gentlemen are so much occupied in their professions that they seldom care to trouble themselves about the horses; but the fact is that in no country in the world do the owners of horses take greater personal interest in them than in India. We suspect that our authoress is the wife of a civilian, and her husband may have had a great deal of work to do, but India has more idle gentlemen almost than England. The book is well written and well printed, but cannot be taken as an infallible guide, even to the limited portion of India—the Madras Presidency—with which alone the authoress seems acquainted. It is, however, the best book we have yet seen on the subject, and may serve as the basis of a useful guide book to household management in Eastern India.

*Handbook of Baptism.* By R. Ingham.—We suppose the word 'handbook' has relation to the word *hand*, and means a book that can readily be taken, held, and kept in the hand. If this be its meaning, Mr. R. Ingham writes for people who have very large hands. His 'Handbook of Baptism' is an octavo containing 584 pages of text, and 40 more of appendix and index, from which data the thickness and weight may be conceived by no great effort of imagination. This mass of close print is entirely devoted to the mode of baptism, whether by sprinkling or immersion, another volume, of which the MS. is already in existence, being perhaps in store for us 'on the Subjects of Baptism.' One would hardly have fancied that in this period of collision on the first principles in religion, an earnest man could manage to keep up even his own interest to such an extent on the question of immersion or sprinkling; and we suspect that the author will not add to the limited number of those who share with him such interest. It is a question for which the great majority of Christians cannot care. They will cheerfully surrender the original practice. They may even be willing to allow Mr. Ingham and his co-religionists to take their own way with the word *baptizo*, but they will remain quite at ease notwithstanding. It requires no very high Churchmanship to refer a question like this to the power of binding and loosing; nor does it indicate any culpable laxity to be indifferent to the precise way in which a symbolical rite is administered, so long as the essential feature of the symbol is preserved.

*A New Atmosphere.* By Gail Hamilton, Author of 'Country Living and Country Thinking,' 'Gala Days,' and 'Stumbling-Blocks.' (Boston: Ticknor & Fields. London: Sampson Low, Son, & Marston.)—The object of this book is to vindicate for woman a higher and better place in the world than is at present enjoyed by her, according to the author's opinion. In that opinion women are not in any point inferior to man, and their independence involves no sacrifice of feminine attributes. Man is really at the bottom of every evil under the sun, and yet ever since the days of Adam and Eve it has been the habit of men to seek to lay the blame of their own transgressions upon the women. The book is full of indignant protest against many things in which all must agree. Girls, for instance, ought not to be brought up as if the sole object in life was to secure a good match in the matrimonial market. Nor should it be considered that the highest function of a woman is to be able to preside every day over the cooking of a good dinner for her husband. Higher duties and objects should not be forgotten while enjoying the increased material comforts and appliances of modern life. Many passages in the book lead one to conclude that ladies in New England are much oppressed by domestic cares, and we trust that their lot may be ameliorated for the future. But on both sides of the Atlantic the intelligent and highminded purpose of this volume deserves to command attention, although we think it hardly does justice to the sons of Adam, and although the refined and purified atmosphere it seeks to diffuse may be sometimes perhaps a little too elevated for the healthy respiration of daily life.

*The Study of the Human Face.* Illustrated by twenty-six full-page steel engravings. By Thomas Woolnoth, Esq., Historical Engraver to the Queen. (Tweedie.)—This volume gives illustrations of the various passions and dispositions as shown in the human face, together with general remarks on the principles of beauty and taste.

*Tabula Curiales; or, Tables of the Superior Courts of Westminster Hall, from 1066 to 1864.* By Edward Foss, F.S.A., author of 'The Judges of England.' (John Murray, 1865.)—This may be described as a most useful supplement or index to the great work of Mr. Foss; but it will also possess a value independently of it, and will supply a want often felt, and hitherto very imperfectly supplied, in the libraries not only of historians but of working lawyers. It gives alphabetical lists of all the judges, and also tables which display, reign by reign and year by year, the successive constitution of every court, so that the inquirer can at a glance ascertain who were the judges in each court at any given period. There are also lists of the law officers from the earliest times.

*The Pauper, the Thief, and the Convict.* By Thomas Archer. (Groombridge & Sons.)—The book published under this 'sensational' title will produce in the minds of few readers any 'sensational' but that of unqualified weariness. Mr. Archer tries to keep alive the interest which the title of his book may excite by chapters with such headings as 'Land Rats and Water Rats,' 'The never-silent Highway,' 'Weasels asleep,' &c.; but when the reader has finished the book (if he does finish it), he will find it hard to distinguish in his memory the rats from the weasels, or either from the highway.

*Lazarus and other Poems.* By E. H. Plumptre, M.A. (Strahan.)—This is a very remarkable volume. Professor Plumptre's attainments have long been known, and have become more widely so, by the important share taken by him in Dr. Smith's 'Bible Dictionary.' But few could have anticipated the use to which he has now turned those attainments, and the Biblical researches with which he so largely aided Dr. Smith. Few reading Mr. Plumptre's articles in the Dictionary would have guessed that several of them were about to be transformed into poems. It is even so, however. Mr. Plumptre has tried a very daring experiment, and, in our judgment, has succeeded. He has combined with the Gospel narrative traditional legend and conjectures of his own, working these into well planned and interesting tales, told in very graceful blank verse.

An account of the first of these will convey some notion of the general character of the volume.

A young man from the East lands in 'Massilia's harbour,' i.e. Marseilles:

No adventurer he  
With cunning wares; no wanderer roaming far  
To see the cities, note the lives of men;  
But fixed and strong in mood, as one who seeks  
Some longed-for goal, and slacks not till he finds.  
Some eight and twenty summers he had seen,  
And still the brow was smooth and eye undimmed  
As in youth's brightest prime; but all the glee,  
The mirth, the sunshine of the golden dawn  
Had vanished, and a twilight grey had come  
Before its time.

He passes unheeded by the objects of curiosity or interest to be found in the city, and makes for

The suburb poor,  
And dark and squalid, where Massilian Jews  
Were fain to dwell.

Here he asks for a man called Eleazar, but it is some time before he can find him, as he is known neither in the mart nor the synagogue. Poor people, however, testify to getting relief from one of that name, and remember the 'angel words' that came from sisters of his who lived with him but are now dead.

He finds Eleazar, a grey-headed old man, 'calm with the calm of sunset,' and explains that he comes from

Jochanan, once of green Bethsaida's hill,  
Now elder of the Church at Ephesus.

The old man at once recognizes the name, which we scarcely need say is the same as John, and the subsequent conversation tells the reader of ecclesiastical history that the young man from the East is his old acquaintance the Apostle's twice converted robber. He had felt insecure in his second penitence, the wild stirrings still moved him, and he desired a further amulet against the evil to which he had so much subjected himself. The Apostle had therefore sent him westward to seek an old man named Eleazar, or perhaps pronounced Lazarus, in Massilia, who can scarcely be yet dead, seeing that he had promised to send word when he should feel his summons arriving, till which Jochanan or John did not feel at liberty to present the world with his friend's wondrous story.

Eleazar or Lazarus (the names are the same even as Jochanan and John) on this gives the stranger an account of his life, in which the reader is soon enabled to recognize him not only as the brother of Martha and Mary (or Miriam), but as the rich young ruler who had kept the commandments from his youth up, though he failed for a time to comply with the summons to sell all that

he had and give to the poor. Soon after that summons he was seized with illness, which ended in death. For the condition into which he then passed, the ordinary reader will scarcely be prepared, and the question which Mr. Tennyson puts into his sister's mouth,

'Where wert thou, brother, those four days?' receives a startling answer. The Rabbis talk of him and his promise, and their fears lest he might have become a follower of the Nazarene to whom he was 'half inclined':

But they knew not all the while  
I heard them in Gehenna. In mine ears,  
Their praise was hateful, and that 'half inclined'  
Came floating to me as the knell of doom,  
The witness of my guilt. But 'half inclined!'  
Oh! had that half been whole I had not been  
In that thick darkness, waiting evermore.  
How long I lay I knew not, for the lost  
Count not their time by days, and months, and years,  
But one long dreary everlasting Now  
Is ever with them.

He is raised; and now, 'whole inclined' to Christ's service, first gives one great feast, 'to which the Master came with all his followers,'—the occasion of course on which Mary anointed that Master for his burial, and then complies with the summons 'Sell all that thou hast, and give to the poor,' reserving as his sole property the linen sheet in which he had been buried. In this he appears at Gethsemane on the night of our Lord's capture, and is thus identified with the young man of whom we read in Mark xiv. 51. Finally, he ends his days, as we have seen, at Massilia. His story leads his young visitor and himself into some high and solemn discourse, which occupies the second part of the poem.

We have given the outline of 'Lazarus,' because it is a specimen of the relation in which Mr. Plumptre's poems stand to scriptural narrative. The identification of Lazarus with the rich young ruler, on which the story is founded, is a conjecture of Mr. Plumptre's own, on behalf of which he has already bestowed great pains in Dr. Smith's 'Bible Dictionary,' and has reproduced his principal arguments in the notes to the present volume. His reasoning is ingenious, and carries us as far as mere probabilities can do in favour of a point which is without a particle of direct evidence. When we pause and ask ourselves how we ought to view the history of the raising of Lazarus in the sphere of our real, most solemn, and practical convictions, we must answer that those convictions are limited to the one fact of Omnipotence bringing back a dead man from the grave, and find their true expression in the immortal words—

Behold a man raised up by Christ!  
The rest remaineth unrevealed.  
He told it not, or something sealed  
The lips of that Evangelist.

But Mr. Plumptre has made a perfectly legitimate use of his conjecture for the purposes of Christian poetry. He has combined extra-scriptural materials with scriptural without altering and disarranging the latter to any considerable extent, and has worked the whole into a story nobly told in very sufficient and graceful blank verse.

What is true of 'Lazarus' is true of the other Biblical tales which make up the staple of this volume. They are stories made up of Scriptural accounts, apocryphal traditions, and conjectural combinations, all more or less marked by the same merits as 'Lazarus.' 'The House of the Rechabites' is perhaps the most striking; and 'The Three Cups of Water,' of which, however, only the first part is Biblical, is that which delights us most.

The rhyming poems at the end of the volume have great merit, but would not perhaps have impressed us so strongly with Mr. Plumptre's powers had they been unaccompanied by those of which we have hitherto spoken.

Our extracts from 'Lazarus' have been made merely to help us on in sketching the story, not selected for their own sake as specimens. Poetry cannot be judged by such specimens, least of all Mr. Plumptre's, in which every part stands in closest relation to the whole. We cordially thank him for his interesting and beautiful volume.

*Revue des Deux Mondes.* 15 Février 1865.—If there be any Frenchman who yet believes that an Englishman may get rid of his wife by a summary process at Smithfield, or that the Lord Mayor wields a power not at all short of regal, the fault does certainly not lie with M. Esquiros. His acquaintance with our country is such as very few natives possess, and the articles in which he embodies his extensive information are exceedingly interesting and well-written. His themes on the present occasion are South Wales and its iron-works, with a special description of the *Eisteddfods*. The next article in the *Revue* is one by M. Henri Delaborde on Alexandre Calame, a Swiss painter, who died a few months ago. From the æsthetic



principles enunciated in this article we beg entirely to differ. Nature in Switzerland, according to M. Delaborde, is quite exceptional in its character. It 'has no verisimilitude, so to speak,' and therefore the artist should avoid any attempt at reproducing its beauties, and confine his attention to scenes of a homelier kind. To this it is quite enough to answer that, however little verisimilitude Alpine scenery may possess to the eye accustomed, say, to the Boulevard des Italiens, it has yet laws and beauties of its own which any painter is more than justified in trying to catch and fix on canvas if he can. Making these artificial boundaries to art is like setting up nine-pins, which the next painter of any original genius who turns his attention to the subject is sure to bowl over. Indeed, it would not be difficult to point to a few works by Turner and Stanfield which show that they have been bowled over already. Whether M. Delaborde is happier in his criticism on Calame's works is a question which our inadequate acquaintance with the painter's works does not enable us thoroughly to settle. We cannot, however, resist the thought that his talents would have been better appreciated had he been a Frenchman. M. Dupont White, in a second elaborate article on Positivism, endeavours to establish the philosophical inferiority of that strange religion. He wishes to show that, even if it be true that all antecedent religions and metaphysical systems have failed to solve the riddles of mankind, yet Positivism has met with no better success. Besides these, we have papers on the tunnels through the Alps, on the war in Uruguay, and the republics of La Plata, by M. Elisée Reclus, on St. Treneus and the Gnostics of his time, by M. Albert Réville, and an interesting chapter on the industrial statistics of Paris, by M. Charles Lavollée. M. Paul Perret's novel of 'The Priory' also reaches a fourth part. M. Forcade's *Chronique de la Quinzaine*, having been necessarily written before the publication of the Emperor's speech, naturally loses, as M. Forcade himself complains, the bloom of its interest.

NEW NOVELS.

*Dina; or Familiar Faces.* Three volumes. (Edinburgh: Nimmo.)—*Dina* is a disappointing novel. It begins briskly and well, and we fancy we are going to be introduced to some pleasant people, whose adventures will not improbably prove amusing, if not instructive. But alas, the story drags its slow length along for three thick volumes, and we fail altogether to perceive why the different pairs of lovers should defer their respective marriages so long, except that they would by so doing put an end to interminable conversations of a prosy character, and to certain disquisitions on cruelty to animals and other irrelevant matters. The plot, such as it is, turns upon the recovery and rehabilitation of a long lost and suspected wife by a rheumatic young Scotch baronet; but this rather meagre framework is little more than an excuse for the introduction of divers young ladies and gentlemen who are all more or less in love with one another, and whose visits to one another's houses and protracted though not very exciting courtships fill up the main portion of the book. The young ladies are, of course, all pretty, and are distinguished for the most part by the colour of their respective eyes, which colour is not unwisely alluded to on each appearance or reappearance of a damsel, lest the reader should get confused with the numerous Marys, Marians, and Pollys. Thus, Marian has violet, otherwise 'slaty' eyes; Polly, blue eyes; Edith, azure eyes, and 'dim' hair; Bracy, 'brave black eyes'; and Mary, green ones and yellow hair, which latter ornament she has a habit of twisting round the wrists of her male friends. Altogether, there is a good deal of romping and flirting throughout the book, and the eyes are always in full play. The men are more remarkable for hair than eyes, though the hero, a horse-artillery captain, in combination with scanty hair, has clear grey eyes, with a chaste spirit looking out of them; but we are taught to recognize the baronet, the parson, &c., more by their black or red hair than by anything else. As for incident, we have the artilleryman scaling a cliff to rescue a baby, a spirited scene enough, and we have a house struck by lightning; but for the most part we are fain to wander and make love in trim gardens, or to romp in hayfields. The best thing in the book is a description of a scene between a Newfoundland dog and a pony, which we transcribe:—

'But Duff and Thunderbolt, though old acquaintances, were not very intimate or very familiar with each other's ways, and on one or two occasions they had been known to misunderstand each other. They did so now. The pony neighed in its plea-

santest manner, shook its head, pawed the ground gracefully with its off fore-foot, and looked highly gratified with the Newfoundland's attentions. But the latter was unfortunately a humourist, and very fond of practical jokes. At first he made a variety of surprising zig-zags on the walk, dashed from side to side, made light springs forward, and then suddenly backed, and, with his forepaws spread, crouched opposite the pony, flapping the pebbles with his great bushy tail, and barking and snuffling most amicably. All this the pony understood and liked, but presently Duff changed his address altogether. He rose and walked slowly towards the pony, stopped, looked at him with a suspicious side glance, crossed the path to the door-step, and then, turning only his head, eyed his friend in a sinister-like way, and showed the whites of his eyes ominously. Thunderbolt, much subdued, returned his glance with an inquiring one. Then the dog wheeled round, and from behind slowly approached the pony's leg, with an 'uncanny' air, and a lowering eye. The pony looked back doubtfully, drew a little off, and seemed apprehensive. Still Duff advanced deliberately with his ugly air. At last, his upper lip curled slightly, so as to let his teeth be; seen he, when close to the pony's near fore-leg, jerked his mouth towards it, as if to snap at it. But this was too much for Thunderbolt, who now thoroughly alarmed, swerved violently to the right, and then backed hastily till the phaeton wheels struck the door-step, when, finding it impossible to escape that way, he reared a little from his tormentor, plunged, and at last bolted forward and dashed on to the lawn in a panic, followed by Duff in the wildest excitement at the success of his ruse.'

The conversations, barring their tediousness, are well done on the whole; and the book, though not free from Scotticisms, is written in an attractive and refined style.

*Love's Conflict.* By Florence Marryatt. Three volumes. (Bentley.)—The name of Marryatt rings pleasantly in the ear of all novel-readers, and a story by a daughter of the author of 'Peter Simple' and the 'King's Own' will at any rate need little introduction to those who remember those delightful fictions. But we hardly think that 'Love's Conflict' will establish Miss Marryatt's position. Powerful and clever enough, the story deals mainly with a subject which, never very pleasant to read about, is particularly disagreeable when the author is a woman. The morbid anatomy of the passions, if it must form the subject of novels, should be left to male writers. Then again, one of the characters at least, a vulgar-minded heartless fisher girl, educated into a fine lady, but retaining to the last all her coarseness, is positively repulsive; and her proceedings in the very first chapter are such as will cause many readers to shut the book at once. We admit that as far as repulsiveness goes, this first chapter is by far the worst; but the scenes in which the real heroine is struggling to resist the temptation to elope from her husband smack more of the staple of French novels than of English ones. The story turns chiefly upon this guilty love of Mrs. Elfrida Treherne (a very charmingly described lady by the way) for a brilliant dragoon who, in disgust at her declining to elope with him, marries his cousin, the reclaimed fisher girl above-mentioned. Circumstances which for the sake of not spoiling the interest of the story we refrain from specifying, arouse the jealousy of Elfrida's husband, a selfish tyrannical brute, and the lady finds a refuge with her parents, returning however to her husband to nurse him during a fever, and thereby gaining and reciprocating his love and being a devoted wife for the future. This is a very meagre outline of the story, which though spun out in parts, is on the whole very skilfully framed and conducted. Setting aside the defects we have alluded to, 'Love's Conflict' is indeed a novel of very considerable merit, and we look confidently forward to seeing Miss Marryatt take a fore place as a writer of fiction, if she will refrain in future from scenes and subjects which, though they may find a fitting place in the works of some great masters in the art of delineating human passions, are just as well left alone by lady authors.

*Beatrice Leigh.* By Laura Jane Curling. Two volumes. (Newby.)—We cannot say much in favour of this story except that it is short. No great skill is shown in the construction of the plot, and there is nothing in the delineation of character to make up for the want of incident. The substitution of a dead infant for a living one, and the subsequent remorse of the perpetrator of the deed and his persecution at the hands of his accomplices, form but a threadbare groundwork for a novel; and the reappearance of the rightful heir

in the character of a poor singing master is an incident with which the minor theatres have been long familiar. The only marvel is how a writer can find patience to fill even two volumes with the conversations and descriptions needful to clothe such very dry bones.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE WEEK.

- AGRICULTURAL VALUE (The) of the Sewage of London, examined in reference to the principal Schemes submitted to the Metropolitan Board of Works. With Extracts from the Evidence of Chemists, Engineers, and Agriculturists. With Map. 8vo. sd. pp. 78. *Stanford*. 1s.
- ANDERSON (William). Practical Mercantile Correspondence: a Collection of Modern Letters of Business. Fourteenth Edition. Revised and Enlarged. Fcp. 8vo. pp. xxxii+279. *Trübner*. 5s.
- ANGEL VISITS, and other Poems. Fcp. 8vo. *Smith & Elder*. 5s.
- ARVISENET'S Divine Counsels; or, the Young Christian's Guide to Wisdom. Translated from Arvisenet, and adapted to the use of the Anglican Church. By William B. Caparn, M.A. With a Preface by John Sharp, M.A. 18mo. cl. sd. pp. xli+157. *J. H. & J. Parker*. 2s. 6d.
- AVILA HOPE. 2 vols. Cr. 8vo. pp. 648. *Tinsley*. 21s.
- BATHGATE (William). Christ and Man; or, God's Answer to our Chief Questions. Cr. 8vo. pp. xvi+258. *Jackson, Walford, & Hodder*. 5s.
- BEASLEY (R.D., M.A.) Elementary Treatise on Plane Trigonometry, with a numerous collection of Examples, chiefly designed for the use of Schools and Beginners. Second Edition. Revised and Enlarged. Cr. 8vo. pp. viii+114. *Macmillan*. 3s. 6d.
- BELLAL. 2 vols. Post 8vo. pp. 631. *Smith & Elder*. 21s.
- BRYAN (Ruth). Letters of. By the Editor of 'Handfuls of Purpose.' With a Preface by the Rev. A. Moody Stuart. Cr. 8vo. pp. lxxx+358. *Nisbet*. 5s.
- BURNET (Gilbert, D.D.) History of the Reformation of the Church of England. A New Edition, carefully revised, and the Records collated with the originals, by Nicholas Pocock, M.A. 7 vols. 8vo. *Clarendon Press*. 84s.
- BUSHNELL (Horace, D.D.) Christ and his Salvation. In Sermons variously related thereto. Cr. 8vo. pp. viii+412. *Strahan*. 6s.
- CHALMERS (Grace Pratt). Road and the Resting Place. Second Edition. Royal 18mo. pp. xi+182. *Nisbet*. 2s.
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- CHORAL Book (The) for England. Congregational Edition. Hymns and Melodies. The Hymns from the German, by Catherine Winkworth; the Tunes edited by William Sterndale Bennett and Otto Goldschmidt. With Supplement. Fcp. 8vo. *Longman*. 2s.
- COCKAYNE (Rev. O.) Leechdoms, Wortcunning, and Starcraft of Early England. Vol. II. Royal 8vo. hf. bd. *Longman*. 10s.
- DODD (P. W.) and BROOKS (G. H.) Law and Practice of the Court of Probate, &c. &c. 8vo. *Stevens, Sons, & Haynes*. 31s. 6d.
- EVENTS of the Month. 1864. 8vo. *Mozley*. 5s.
- FITZGERALD (Percy, M.A., F.S.A.) A Famous Forgery: being the Story of 'The Unfortunate' Doctor Dodd. With Portrait. Post 8vo. pp. x+246. *Chapman & Hall*. 8s.
- FULLON (S.W.) For Love or Money: a Novel. 3 vols. Post 8vo. pp. 336. *Skeet*. 31s. 6d.
- GIFT Poems. By Eos. Fcp. 8vo. *Hatchard*. 4s. 6d.
- GRAHAM (Rev. William). Lochmaben Five Hundred Years Ago; or, Selections, Historical and Antiquarian, from Papers collected by the late John Parker, Principal Extractor of the Court of Session. Sm. cr. 8vo. pp. viii+200. *Nimmo*. 2s. 6d.
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- LONDON University Calendar (The). 1865. 12mo. *Taylor & Francis*. 4s.
- LOVING Words of Caution, Counsel, and Consolation, for such as are seeking to be like their Lord. In Poetry and Prose. Second Edition. 18mo. pp. x+290. *Tresidder*. 1s.
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# THE READER.

25 FEBRUARY, 1865.

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 PRESENT (The) and Future of Ireland as the Cattle Farm of England, and her probable Population. With Legislative Remedies. By an Irish Merchant. Roy. 8vo. sd. pp. 96. Dublin: Hodges & Smith. Simpkin. 1s.  
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## MISCELLANEA.

THE sudden death of Admiral the Hon. Henry A. Murray, on Friday last, has made a sad gap in many circles. His reputation as an author is not perhaps sufficient to call for any special notice in a literary and scientific journal, though his 'Land of the Slave and the Free' is fully up to the average of books on America. But he had made himself a sort of social link between literary and scientific men, travellers from all parts of the world, guardsmen, and other fashionable and unfashionable young London men, the centre of a society which we never expect to see brought together again. His rooms, at D 4 the Albany, were thrown open for some years past on one night in the week, and from ten till the short hours of the next morning, men dropped in from the centre of Africa, publishing offices, Japan, Lady Palmerston's, the Rag, chambers, or anywhere else in the universe, and talked and smoked pretty much as they do at the Cosmopolitan, with the advantage that here there was a cheery kindly host, interested in the pursuits of all, and with a rare faculty of making every man feel at home, though at his entry he might not have known a face in the room. He had been ill in the winter, but had apparently recovered his usual health, never very robust, and his friends were looking forward to the season at D 4, when they were shocked and startled by the announcement of his death in the papers. He was attacked at two o'clock in the afternoon, became at once insensible, and died the next morning without recovering consciousness.

THE estates granted by Henry VIII. to the Dean and Canons of Christchurch for the endowment of various professorships at Oxford, as noticed in 109 of THE READER, are still held by that body; and, in accordance with the deed of gift, the Dean and Canons, having satisfied themselves on this point, have raised the emolument of the Greek Professorship from 40*l.* to 500*l.* per annum, the *pro rata* of 40*l.* to 35*l.* being in strict conformity with the increased value of the estates. At the same time the Dean has forwarded a letter to the Vice-Chancellor, enclosing the opinion of the Attorney-General, Sir Hugh Cairns, and Mr. Jones Bateman, showing that the Dean and Canons are under no legal obligation to increase the annual payment of 40*l.*, which was charged upon the lands by the deed of gift. Dr. Liddell adds: 'but the Dean and Chapter, considering the great difficulties which have now for some time attended the proposal to endow the Greek Chair, and having weighed all the circumstances of the

case, have agreed to take such measures as may be necessary for the increasing the yearly salary of the Regius Greek Professor to the sum of 500*l.*'

THE Pope has requested Lord Talbot de Malahide to act as Pontifical Commissioner at the Dublin Exhibition. Rome will contribute many works of art to the exhibition, sculpture and mosaics being specially cared for.

THE *Pall Mall Gazette* has been advertised throughout Europe by means of the telegraphic wires. The French papers contain a telegram giving Polish news from the *Pall Mall Gazette*, and as all the continental papers print whatever is sent to them from the telegraphic agency, this telegram has made the name of the paper known everywhere.

ON Tuesday last the third of the University Hall series of lectures was delivered by Mr. C. W. Goodwin, on 'The Influence of Egyptian Literature on the Biblical Writers.' After contending for the existence of an extensive literature in Ancient Egypt as early as B.C. 3000, as proved by allusions in fragments still preserved (of later origin, but in some cases going back as far as B.C. 2000), Mr. Goodwin remarked that this must have been a classic literature to the Hebrews of Solomon's time. The influence which it excited was not, however, calculated to destroy the originality of the Hebrew mind, and traces of it are to be found more in the form than in the substance of the Old Testament narratives. To prove the reality of such an influence, at least with regard to modes of expression, Mr. Goodwin compared some of the Egyptian writings with portions of the Hebrew books; as, for instance, the proverbs of an Egyptian sage under the fifth dynasty with parts of the Proverbs of Solomon; the invocation of Ammon by King Rameses II. (about 1350 B.C.) in his wars with the Hittites, with several of the Psalms; and the 'Story of the Two Brothers' with some parts of Genesis, especially that which contains the history of Joseph. The next two lectures will be delivered by the Rev. James Martineau, on the History of Religious Opinion among the Jews during the two centuries preceding the Christian Era.

MR. W. G. PALGRAVE, it is said, has been appointed Prussian consul at Bagdad.

HER Majesty and his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales have been pleased to accept copies of Mr. Stuart's 'Explorations in Australia.' The author, it will be remembered, has opened up a valuable country in North Australia, which will henceforth be known as 'Alexandra Land.'

AT a sale in the rooms, Rue Drouet in Paris, on Saturday week, the celebrated painting of the 'Assassination of the Bishop of Liège,' by Eugene Delacroix, was sold for 35,000*fr.* The 'Death of Ophelia,' in pencil, by the same painter, brought 2,020*fr.*; and 'St. Louis at the Bridge of Taillebourg,' in water-colours, fetched 3,100*fr.* Some copper plates, engraved by Eugene Delacroix himself, were likewise sold, the whole producing 48,000*fr.*

THE 'Alpenkönig,' Professor Peter Thuriwieser, one of the first Semitic scholars of Germany, and one of the most daring of Alpine climbers, whence his sobriquet, died recently at Salzburg in his 80th year.

DR. EYSELL, of Rinteln, has received the gold medal for art and science from the King of Prussia, and the silver medal for art and science from the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, for his 'History of Joan of Arc.'

PROFESSOR CHARLES EDWARD TURNER, of the Imperial Alexander Lyceum, and Author of 'Our Great Writers'—a course of lectures upon English literature published at St. Petersburg by Mr. Münx last year—has been appointed to the chair of English Lector in the University of St. Petersburg, rendered vacant by the death of Mr. T. B. Shaw.

THIS year's Senior Wrangler, the Hon. J. W. Strutt, gave a lecture on Thursday last at the Witham Literary Institution on the solar system.

MR. W. T. ALCHIN, the librarian at Guildhall, died in his 76th year, at his residence at Whitehead's Grove, Chelsea. Mr. Alchin compiled the indexes to the ancient records of the Corporation. He was formerly a solicitor at Winchester, and, we believe, either made or superintended the compilation of the catalogue of the library of Winchester College, prior to the recent rearrangement of the library.

ON Monday last the sale of the third section of the Portalès collection, containing the engraved gems, was commenced. A specimen of Carlovingian gold-work, forming the setting to a gem,

engraved by Nicolo—a fawn springing from the ground with a bunch of grapes on his head, brought 1,100*fr.*; an Eastern sardonix, with the head of Agrippina, mother of Nero, 670*fr.*; a lion passant, on a sardonix, 300*fr.*; a bust of Silenus, with a coronal of vine leaves, of gilt bronze, on a pedestal of blue chalcedony, 325*fr.*; Oedipus standing armed with a lance and replying to the Sphinx, 300*fr.*; the infant Jupiter sitting on the ground, under Almathea, the goat, 300*fr.*; a naked figure, with long hair, working at a head of Medusa, which was discovered at Cesarea, 335*fr.*; a head of Cicero, on onyx, with the initials 'M. T. C.' on the back, 115*fr.*; a naked warrior, on onyx, holding a shield in his left hand, and drawing an arrow from his bosom with his right, 205*fr.*; a bearded Hercules, on onyx, holding his club in his right hand and the tripod of Apollo in his left, 140*fr.*; and Esculapius, on onyx, 133*fr.*

'THE question has often been started,' says the *Guardian*, 'of "Who was the executioner of Charles I.?" A friend of ours, whose father holds a high position in the island of Barbados, avows his firm belief that the individual was named Peachell or Pechell, whose deposition, taken down from his lips when he lay upon his death-bed, is preserved among the Barbadian state papers, which are now lying in the Public Record Office in Fetter Lane. This deposition has been lately brought to light, and it is to be hoped that its contents will be made public.'

'PORTRAITS of Men of Eminence,' executed in photography, and hitherto published by Mr. Lovell Reeve, will in future be issued by Mr. Alfred W. Bennett, of Bishopsgate Street. In the forthcoming number will be a photograph and memoir of the late Dr. Hugh Falconer. Mr. Reeve's other publications, illustrated by photography, including Mr. Jephson's 'Shakespeare' and 'Walking Tour in Brittany,' have also passed into Mr. Bennett's hands.

THE *Hasselbergische* piracy of the Emperor Napoleon's 'Histoire de Jules César,' the announcement of which indicated that the entire three volumes would be published before the end of June, ere the French and Prussian international law of copyright comes into operation, has called forth a long letter from M. Henri Plon, which is given in the *Börsenblatt* of the 17th inst. As fixing the probable dates for the appearance of the second and third volumes of the work, we quote the concluding paragraph of M. Plon's letter. Speaking of the pirate publisher, he says:—'Il avance que lorsque le traité pour la propriété sera conclu avec la Prusse, traité qui paraît imminent, ses souscripteurs n'en seront pas moins satisfaits, la totalité de l'ouvrage devant être publiée en Juin. Je suppose alors que sa traduction sera une œuvre de pure imagination de son éminent traducteur, car il n'est pas probable que le tome II du livre de l'Empereur paraisse avant le mois de Juillet et le tome III avant la fin de l'année.'

THE 'Histoire de Jules César' will be published simultaneously in Hungarian at Pesth with the French original.

THE 'Histoire de Jules César' will also appear in a Spanish dress, the translation having been confided to M. de Ochoa, Director of Public Instruction at Madrid.

AN engraving of Kaulbach's celebrated picture of 'The Death of Julius Caesar' will be issued in the octavo size to bind up with the first volume of the 'Histoire de Jules César.'

MESSRS. DIDOT, FRÈRES, & Co. have just published 'Bossuet, Précepteur du Dauphin, Fils de Louis XIV, et Evêque à la Cour (1670-1682, par A. Floquet)—a volume of some 600 pages; 'Éléments d'Electro-Chimie appliquée aux Sciences Naturelles et aux Arts. Deuxième édition, entièrement refondue par M. Becquerel; 'Les trois Démembrements de la Pologne. Pour faire suite aux Révolutions de Pologne de Rulhière par A. F. Cl. Ferrand. Edition revue sur le Texte et annotée par Christien Ostrowski,' in three volumes; the second volume of 'Dictionnaire de l'Académie des Beaux-arts, contenant les Mots qui appartiennent à l'Enseignement, à la Pratique, à l'Histoire des Beaux-arts, etc.;' and Nos. 9 and 10 of 'Exploration Archéologique de la Galatie et de la Bithynie, par MM. Perrot et Delbet.'

THE first volume of a French translation of Mr. Charles Merivale's 'History of the Romans under the Empire,' by M. Fr. Hennebert, has just appeared at Brussels.

THE following new French novels have appeared:—'Les Vagabonds, par Mario Proth; 'Les Amours d'un Garde Champêtre, par Hippolyte de Clairet; 'La Valise Noir, par Emile



Sourestre; 'Loin de Paris, par Théophile Gautier; 'Fidès, par Paul Deltuf; 'Les Cosaques d'Autro-fois, par Prosper Mérimée; and 'Trafalgar, par Méry.

THE third volume of the *Bibliotheca Americana*, published by Franck of Paris, is entitled: 'Mémoire sur les Mœurs, Coustumes et Religion des Sauvages de l'Amérique Septentrionale par N. Perrot. Publié par J. Tailhan.'

THE French papers announce M. de la Roquette's 'Correspondance Scientifique et Littéraire, recueillie, publiée et précédée d'une Notice et d'une Introduction; suivie de la Biographie de Correspondants de Humboldt, de Notes et d'une Table, et ornée de 2 portraits de A. de Humboldt, et du Fac-simile d'une de ses Lettres,' a volume of xlv-470 pages; 'Journal de la Régence (1715-1723), par Jean Buvat, Ecrivain de la Bibliothèque du Roi, publié pour la première fois et d'après les Manuscrits originaux, précédé d'une Introduction et accompagné de Notes et d'un Index alphabétique, par Émile Campardon,' two thick volumes, octavo; an interesting pamphlet of 35 pages, 'La Révolution et les Partis en Angleterre sous les Stuart. Leçon d'ouverture du Cours d'Histoire à la Faculté des Lettres de Poitiers,' by M. Bazy; 'L'Europe et le Second Empire, par M. le Comte de Carné; et le first annual volume of V. Meunier's 'La Science et les Savants en 1864;' and a reprint in a separate form from the *Revue Pratique de Droit Français* of 'Examen du Projet de Loi sur la Propriété Littéraire et Artistique, précédé d'une Dissertation sur l'Imperfection de notre Droit privé et la Méthode à suivre pour éviter à l'avenir les Défauts qui le déparent,' by M. F. Mourlon.

THE American publishers announce as in the press, 'A General History of the Church,' by the Abbé J. E. Darras, with introduction and notes by Dr. Spalding, Bishop of Baltimore; a new volume of poems, by Orpheus C. Kerr, 'The Palace Beautiful; 'Southern Generals, Who they are, and What they have done,' by a Virginian; 'The Life and Deeds of General W. T. Sherman,' by the Rev. C. P. Headly; a 'Life of Farragut,' by the same; and 'Lectures on Ethics and Jurisprudence,' by Professor J. W. French.

THE *Atlantic Monthly* gives another fragment of Hawthorne's 'Dolliver Romance,' the author's unrevised first draught. We have already expressed regret that the former portion should have been published in the July number of the same periodical. It is needless to say that had the author been spared, the characters of little 'Pansie' and 'Grandsir Dolliver' would have been the two most finished labours of his pen. Yet, it is scarcely fair to the memory of any author of the high position achieved by Nathaniel Hawthorne, that unfinished scraps, like the present, should be so extensively circulated. Their proper place, it seems to us, would be in the appendix to the biography of the author, which we understand is now in the press.

M. HENRI PLON's 'Publications du Mois Janvier 1865,' include: 'Lettres et Pensées d'Hippolyte Flandrin, accompagnées de Notes et précédées d'une Notice Biographique et d'un Catalogue des Oeuvres du Maître par M. le vicomte Henri Delaborde; 'Vie et Correspondance de Pierre Delavigne, Ministre de l'Empereur Frédéric II, avec une Etude sur le mouvement Réformiste au treizième siècle, par A. Huillard-Bréholles; 'Correspondance complète de la Marquise du Deffand, avec ses amis, le Président Hénaut, Montesquieu, d'Alembert, Voltaire, Horace Walpole; 'Journal de la Régence (1715-1723), par Jean Buvat, écrivain de la Bibliothèque du Roi, publié pour la première fois et d'après les manuscrits de la Bibliothèque impériale, avec une Introduction, des Notes et un Index alphabétique, par Émile Campardon; 'Les hauts Phénomènes de la Magie, précédés du Spiritisme Antique, par le Chevalier Gougenot des Mousseaux; 'Le Merveilleux dans le Jansénisme, le Magnétisme, l'Épidémie de Morzine, le Spiritisme, etc., par Hippolyte Blanc; 'Science sans Préjugés, Exposé critique des Faits et Questions Scientifiques du Temps, par André Sanson; 'Études philosophiques, Psychologie, Métaphysique, et Application de la Philosophie à la Direction de la Vie humaine, par le Général Noizet.'

*Der Deutsche Eidgenosse* is the name of a new monthly democratic periodical, which advocates the principles which led to the movements of 1848. From the very eminent names, both in literature and science, some of which are those of men of mark, resident in exile in this country, in America, and elsewhere, the movement is attracting much attention, more particularly as the programme sets forth that 'they are leagued together to accomplish the overthrow of tyranny, and to establish a democratic commonwealth.'

AMONGST important books just published in Germany we notice 'Reise der Oesterreichischen Fregatte Novara um die Erde, in den Jahren 1857, 1858, 1859, unter den Befehlen des Commodore B. v. Willerstorff-Urbair.—Zoologischer Theil. II. Band. 2. Abtheilung: Lepidoptera von Dr. Cajetan Felder u. Rudolf Felder;' with 21 coloured plates;—also a valuable addition to our knowledge of the geology of New Zealand, arising out of the voyage of discovery of the Austrian frigate 'Novara,' under the title of 'Geologie von Neu-Seeland. Beiträge zur Geologie der Provinzen Auckland und Nelson,' by Dr. Ferdinand von Hochstetter. It is to be hoped that this splendidly printed and illustrated work, of which scientific men abroad speak in the highest terms of praise, may also be presented to the reader in an English dress. Of other recent German books we mention the first number of a new naval gazette, 'Hansa, Zeitschrift für Deutsches Seewesen,' herausgegeben von G. Schürmann und G. Thaulow; 'E. Desor's 'Gebirgsbau der Alpen,' several works respecting Schleswig-Holstein and the Danish war, and the first number of an Art-journal, edited by Herman Grimm, under the title of 'Ueber Kunst und Kunstwerke.' Cardinal Wiseman's 'Sermons on Christian Life' have been translated by Professor Kayser, of Paderborn, the second volume of which has just appeared at Cologne. Also the following works on natural history:—Madame Berthe Hoola van Nooten's beautiful book on the flora and pomona of Java consists of forty large folio coloured plates, supplemental to the works of Blume, Melvill de Cambée, Siebold, and Friese. It is published by Muquardt of Brussels, under the title of 'Fleurs, Fruits et Feuillages choisis de la Flore et de la Pomone de l'Île de Java, peints d'après nature, par Madame Berthe Hoola van Nooten, à Batavia;—A tenth edition of P. F. Cürrie's 'Anleitung die im mittlern und nördlichen Deutschland wildwachsenden und angebauten Pflanzen, auf eine leichte und sichere Weise durch eigene Untersuchung zu bestimmen,' entirely rearranged and improved by the Seminar-director, August Lüben.—The fifth and sixth numbers of the 'Flora von Deutschland, herausgegeben von D. F. L. von Schlechtendal, C. A. Langenthal, und E. Schenk;—a popular work on the beetles of Germany, 'Der Deutsche Käferfreund,' by E. Müller, who makes his title of Beetlefriend good by showing the best means of catching, killing, and preserving the objects of his friendly regards.

WRITING from Rome, under date of the 14th instant, the *Times* correspondent gives the following account of the eruption of Vesuvius:—'A despatch, which I received yesterday morning from Giovanni Cozzolino, the principal guide of Vesuvius, communicates the following intelligence! "During the night of the 9th instant, at the foot of the crater formed in 1861, a cone rose about 15 feet in height and 20 feet in diameter, which throws red-hot stones to an elevation of about a mile. This morning (the 10th) severe shocks have been felt at Resina." From other sources I learn that the shocks were sensibly felt at Naples. The eruption is remarkable as taking place simultaneously with that of Etna. From my last intelligence the flames were not very high. Vesuvius and the whole line of mountains round the Bay are covered with snow, forming a remarkable contrast and a grand spectacle. On the night before the eruption took place there was a most terrific thunderstorm.' A correspondent of the *Morning Herald*, under the signature of T. M. H., writing from the spot, gives the following account of the progress of the present eruption of Mount Etna:—'The crater during the entire month of January was surmounted by a dense column of smoke, which hung almost vertically over it. Towards the close of the month a surprising and marked change in the weather was experienced, the appearance of the country also quite changed, and the contrast from the severity of winter to the mildness of early spring was somewhat startling; and, strange, the thermometer rose considerably; the days, and even the evenings, became particularly warm, and at times the atmosphere was almost oppressive. On the 30th of January, a little before sunset, at the base of Frumento, were seen suddenly issuing vertical columns of thick and almost black smoke, taking much the form of waterspouts; these continued all night. As morning dawned on the 31st, Etna disclosed itself once again since '52 in the full workings of a grand eruption, preceded by violent shocks and imposing rumblings like thunder; the long undisturbed apex of the mountain opened up, throwing out clouds of sand, ashes, and lava, over the surrounding country; the burning stream then commenced to flow down the eastern side, its rapidity being very great, for in twenty-four hours it had extended itself five miles. Though

at first it continued in one stream, it soon divided into three, and these again into several others, the widest being about three miles broad. One of the most extensive of these currents flows from west to east, and threatens the neighbourhood of the famous Cava Grande, and the world-famed chestnut tree "of the hundred horsemen," which is said to be the oldest, largest, and most wonderful tree in existence. Another branch, said to be the smallest, soon flowed over a ravine known as the Leap of Colavecchio, and from this forced its way into the plain of Monte-arsi, burning the greater part of the Wood of Pines, and injuring the property of Prince Toscano and the chestnut plantation of Signor Mudo, of Acireale. On the plain itself it has done much damage.'

## SCIENCE.

### ON THE DAILY CHANGES OF THE THERMOMETER AND BAROMETER.

TWO communications, by M. Poey and Marshal Vaillant respectively, have recently appeared in the *Comptes Rendus* and *Annales de Chimie*, dealing with the daily changes of the thermometer and barometer.

M. Poey's name is well known to meteorologists as an observer, and his station, Havana, gives him almost a monopoly of the study of phenomena in a part of the world where meteorological societies are things of the future.

His present communication refers more especially to the diurnal and nocturnal changes of temperature, and to its distribution from the horizon to the zenith, as observed at his station; and following the example of Melloni and Tyndall, he has brought the thermo-electric pile to bear upon the study, the pile being mounted equatorially. The point of M. Poey's recent observations has been to extend, if possible, the researches of Pictet, Six Marcel, Martius, and others. As it was found that the temperature of the sky was nowhere constant, three points have been taken towards the north—the zenith, the parallel of 45°, and the horizon. The following are the results of the observations made during the last three years:—

In a clear and calm day and night the needle of the galvanometer shows heat by day and cold by night. There is, therefore, change of the temperature in the morning from cold to warm, and in the evening from warm to cold. This change, however, does not take place at the precise hour of sunrise or sunset, except when the sky is quite cloudless and the atmosphere in a normal condition. Under other circumstances the time of change anticipates or follows the appearance or disappearance of the sun in a variable manner. The change is effected little by little from the horizon to the zenith. In the moving disc the horizon at first shows warmth, then follows to region of 45°, then the zenith. At night the horizon first passed from heat to cold, and so on.

Before and after the rise and set of the sun, and before the change takes place, there is an instant of equilibrium all over the sky—an equilibrium, we may remark *en passant*, which has been long known to all workers with the telescope, as it is at these moments that definition is best. After the change has taken place there is a new set of the temperature to be observed. It is always highest near the horizon, less at 45°, and least at the zenith, except, of course, at noon, when the sun occupies it in M. Poey's latitude. At night this relation holds good with regard to cold. Under these conditions, the clearer and more strongly polarized the sky, the higher the barometer; the more northerly the wind, the drier the air, the greater cold does the galvanometer show. Under opposite conditions, the more strongly does it indicate heat. This is not all. For when the sky is perfectly clear a species of elastic or vesicular vapour may come and cover it as with a veil more or less thick; then the needle at once shows warmth, but if, a moment afterwards, as always happens, this vapour gives rise to light and transparent *Cirrus*, the needle returns to cold.

The estimation of the variation of temperature undergone by the clouds, according to their height and physical constitution, is perfectly easy, as follows:—The *cumulus*, proper, and the *cumulostratus*, of summer, are the warmest. Then comes the *fracto-cumulus*, except after a storm, when they may be as cold as *cirrus*. The *cirro-cumulus* is colder than the *cumulus*, and the *cirrus* coldest.

On the 25th of March 1862, M. Poey caught nature in the act of building up a cloud. The sky was perfectly clear, but at different points, especially towards the east, the elastic vapour was reduced to the vesicular state, and formed a *cirrus*.



During this rapid transformation the needle of the galvanometer showed three different degrees of temperature: the azure sky was cold, but the part covered with the vesicular vapour was warmer; when this vapour froze, however, it was colder than the other portions of the sky.

The maximum deviation observed by M. Poey has been 60°. The observations were repeated in all weathers, and in town and country.

The distribution of temperature in the direction of latitude appears to follow an arithmetical progression, while in the vertical direction from the ground to the zenith the progression would appear to be a geometrical one. A clouding over of the solar disc and of the sky influence in an astonishing manner the thermic condition of the different strata, so that the changes are instantaneous. The passage of a cloud over the sun always reduced the temperature from 20 to 60 degrees. If the cloud passes before the cone of the pile the temperature, as shown by the galvanometer, depends upon the liquid or frozen vesicles which compose it.

Bacon and modern observers have remarked upon the elevation of temperature caused by the passage of a cloud over the zenith, and its decrease after its passage. Pierre Prévost explained this fact by stating that the denser lower air is permeable to radiant heat, and that the higher air is still more so, but that water is not now in vesicular vapour; so the clouds, according to him, are equally opaque to heat or to light. We see that since 1809, Prévost, and in our own day Professor Tyndall, attribute a greater absorbing and radiating power to aqueous vapour than to air, and especially dry air; and M. Magnus appears to be the only person in our temperate zone who doubts it. M. Poey remarks that it is especially at Havana and the torrid zone that this statement can be best verified, as there are the most favourable conditions for the formation of aqueous vapour. He does not consider, although we are at a loss for his reason, that his experiments bear out Professor Tyndall's statements.

He remarks: 'I have always observed, for instance, when the air is dry and the temperature low, that the barometer is high, the azure of the sky intense, and the air without clouds. Under these conditions a change of weather or approaching rain is first announced by a kind of veil of vapour which covers the sky, causes the thermometer to rise, the barometer to fall, dims the azure of the firmament, and enfeebles the polarization of light.'

We now come to Marshal Vaillant's paper on the diurnal variation of the barometer. Several theories have from time to time been proposed to account for this phenomenon since Dr. Beale reported to the Royal Society in 1666 that he had noticed the mercury in the instrument 'which modern philosophers to avoid circumlocutions—call . . . a barometer or baroscope' 'frequently both in winter and summer to be higher in the cold mornings and evenings than in the warmest mid-day.' The sun's heat is no doubt the primary cause, and the particular mode in which it acts is explained by the author as follows:—Owing to the obliquity of the sun's rays in early morning, they have very little heating effect on the earth's surface, and pass through the air without making it sensibly hotter. By degrees, however, the rays, becoming more and more inclined, begin to warm the ground, which in its turn imparts heat to the lower layers of air. The ascensional tendency of these layers is, however, checked by the unwarmed air above, and we have, according to Marshal Vaillant, the case of a confined body of air, which is being gradually heated, and its elasticity therefore increased. This goes on until about nine o'clock—the time of the morning maximum—the barometer in the meanwhile continuing to rise, owing to the increasing elasticity of the confined and heated air. He holds that the barometer is not only a measurer of the weight, but also of the elasticity of the air—that it is, in point of fact, a manometer. This twofold nature of the instrument has, he maintains, been too generally lost sight of. The pressure of the aqueous vapour due to the action of the sun's heat also contributes to this rise of the mercury, and is perhaps the cause of the morning maximum being higher than that in the evening. About nine or ten o'clock equilibrium is established between the force of the ascending current of heated air and the resistance of the superior strata. Soon after, the air begins to ascend freely, and, forming a kind of vacuum beneath, causes the barometer to fall. At about three in the afternoon the first minimum is attained, and shortly afterwards a descending movement of the air sets in, owing to the decreased heating power of the sun's rays, and the barometer begins to rise. This upward movement of the mercury, according to

Humboldt, begins in the tropics about five o'clock in the afternoon, and the maximum is reached at about nine, ten, or even eleven at night. The time of this second maximum, and also the amplitude of the oscillation, are not so well marked as are those of the first or morning maximum. This is owing to the slowness with which the temperature falls during the night, and is also influenced in a very great degree by the formation of the dew, which in some part of the tropics begins to be deposited about four o'clock, and in Senegal even so early as two o'clock. The air being deprived of its downward motion acts on the mercury with a force due only to its weight, and the aqueous vapour previously contained by the atmosphere, being now nearly all condensed in the form of dew, ceases to press on the barometer. The combined action of these circumstances causes a gradual fall to set in, which continues till about 4 a.m. Its depression by that time is, in the tropics, about 4512 millimetre below the mean height. Owing to the small differences in the length of the days in the tropics, observations taken on successive days at the same hour must always be nearly equidistant from sun-rise and sun-set. We cannot therefore in these latitudes expect the oscillations to be so well marked as in the tropics. For instance, an observation taken at nine o'clock in summer, when the sun has been up for five hours, cannot obviously be compared with one taken in the winter at the same hour, when it is scarcely above the horizon.

The paper concludes with an attempt to illustrate the subject by comparing the phenomenon of the diurnal variation with the effects which take place on lighting a fire in an ordinary fire-place. The first consequence of this is to warm the air at the lower part of the chimney, which air is, however, prevented from rising immediately by the resistance of the cold air above, and sometimes the chimney smokes. During this time the pressure at the lower part is slightly increased by the efforts of the warmed air to rise. This represents the state of things at the time of the morning maximum. When the ascending motion is fully established the effects observed from nine until three may be represented. The fire being gradually allowed to go out, the draft is diminished and the pressure in the chimney increases. When the fire place is quite cold, the hot air outside coming into the chimney becomes cooled, and a down-draft is the consequence. This corresponds to that phase of the diurnal oscillation beginning at three or four in the afternoon and lasting until nearly midnight.

#### THE LAURENTIAN ROCKS OF THE WESTERN ISLANDS OF SCOTLAND AND IRELAND.

At the last meeting of the Royal Geological Society of Ireland, reported at length in the *Geological Magazine*, the Rev. Dr. Houghton read a paper on the geology of the Western Islands of Scotland, announcing among other things the discovery of a representative of the Laurentian life-zone among the syenites of Loch Scavig, in Skye.

The mass of the rock is a medium-grained syenite composed of augite and labradorite. Beds of metamorphic rocks, in which labradorite forms an essential constituent, are well known to form an important part of the Laurentian system in Canada. The syenite is bedded, and evidently metamorphic, and is penetrated frequently by dykes of similar syenite, sometimes finer, sometimes coarser in the grain. In the coarsely crystallized masses, the labradorite and augite acquire large dimensions, and are associated with a considerable quantity of ilmenite, such as is found in the oligoclasic syenite of Horn Head, in Donegal.

The fossil *Eozoön Canadense* has also been found, by Mr. Sanford, in Connemara marble from the Binabola mountains. The Irish fossil, however, differs much from the Canadian, as the best films are got, not from the banded dark-green, or from that with blue patches, but from the pale-green, translucent, apparently homogeneous portions; that with blue patches showing but little trace of the Foraminiferal structure. The quarry producing the best specimens is that on the north-west flank of the most south-westerly of the Binabola mountains.\* The green marble is found at various points, in a NW. direction, or thereabouts, from this spot; and it apparently forms a bed with a 'strike' of about NW.—SE.; and it rises in many places like a wall above the mica-schist of the

\* An account of the geology of the Connemara Mountains, with their beautiful green marble, quartz-rock, and mica-schists, illustrated by section, may be seen in Murchison's 'Siluria,' 2nd edit. p. 100, &c.

country, the latter rock having been more easily denuded. The northern end of the bed is far more calcareous than the southern, and there the Eozoan specimens are very unsatisfactory. This marble gives way in parts to the action of acid (but not so easily as the Canadian marble), leaving tubuli like a white velvet coating on the cell-masses, and with an occasional thread going right across. It seems as if the carbonate of lime has here been replaced partly by some other mineral, resisting the acid.

Professor Rupert Jones, to whom Mr. Sanford communicated these observations, in the *Geological Magazine* for February, whence our information is derived, remarks that 'Mr. W. A. Sanford, F.G.S., first wrote to me on November 25, 1864, of his finding Eozoan structure in the Connemara marble; but he did not then feel certain enough of his conclusions to put them in print. When he felt sure, however, of his results, he kindly sent me the "slides" above mentioned; and having got some pieces of "Irish Green" from marble works in London, I verified his discovery by experiment. My specimens, however, of the light-green, translucent, serpentinous marble have yielded much more; excepting that the silicate replacing the "sarcode" of the *Eozoön* is lighter than in a specimen furnished by Sir W. Logan, there is no real difference between the two. The various-formed chambers, the shell of varying thickness, — either very thin and traversed with fine tubuli, the silicate filling which (when bared) resembles white velvet-pile, or thick and traversed with brush-like threads, representing the pseudopodial passages of the "supplemental shell" (or "vascular system"), — are all present.' He adds: 'The best way, perhaps, to examine the rock for *Eozoön* is to strike off thin chips of the marble, parallel with a smooth face, cut across the wavy white and green laminae, as nearly at right angles as practicable (the direction in which ornamental slabs of this marble are often cut), and to submit the chips to the action of very weak dilute acid (not sulphuric); and the peculiar structure, at first sight merely granular (where the mass is more green than white), but showing to the practised eye green stony matter replacing tiers of the many-segmented "sarcode," together with delicate greenish white threads for "pseudopodial filaments," and for "stolons," of the different sizes and in the different positions peculiar to the structure of *Foraminifera*, can readily be detected. The loose morsels also, fallen in the water, are (as Dr. Carpenter showed me) especially instructive, if carefully dried and mounted.'

It is not a little singular that Major-General Sabine, on a visit to the shores of Loch Scavig—a loch bounded by these rocks, which connect the early life-zones of the old world with the new—observed a very singular physical phenomenon on entering it at night. There was an aurora borealis, and he distinctly saw the auroral streams issuing from the syenitic rock. This appearance he was enabled to confirm by changing his place—an observation which, possibly, some day may throw a flood of light on a very obscure question.

The Rev. Dr. Haughton also called attention to the magnetic properties of the rocks. The labradorite and augite rock of Skye contains a large quantity of magnetic iron, of a high specific gravity, as he had mentioned, resembling the syenite of Donegal. Colonel Sir Henry James, when engaged in investigations for the purpose of comparing the measured arc of the meridian in England with arcs measured in France, Prussia, Russia, and Italy, observed that, on approaching Aberdeen, a deviation of the plumb-line occurred, which he was quite unable to explain. Dr. Haughton showed him a specimen similar to the rock now under notice, which contained a large quantity of magnetic iron, and stated that he believed it extended in a broad band through the North of Scotland. It had a specific gravity which was very high, and capable of influencing both the magnet and the pendulum. There were no questions of greater interest in connection with the theory of the earth than those which were opened up and explored by such investigations conducted for the purpose of measuring the arcs of the meridian. Professors Maskelyne, Hutton, and Playfair, have been completely baffled in their investigations in connection with the mountain Schiehallion. He believed the cause to be that they had omitted to take into account rocks of exceptional density, and had in consequence estimated the density of the mountain too low, and accordingly derived too low a density for the earth. There was reason to think that rocks of the character just alluded to ran through Schiehallion. Corrections by modern physicists of their observations went to show that if they had known what the real weight of Schiehallion was, they would have got at the real specific gravity of the earth. From observations which



he himself had made at Loch Seavig with a pocket-compass, and also with the compass of the yacht, he was perfectly satisfied that that mountain was what an ancient mariner would have called a load-stone, which was due to the large quantity of magnetic or titanite iron in it.

General Sabine and Professor Phillips, while engaged in the magnetic survey of the kingdom, made observations and calculations which, when collated, went to show that the magnetic disturbance in England—in which country sedimentary rocks are the most prevalent—was least; that in Ireland was next; and that in Scotland was the highest of all.

#### M. SPRING ON THE MEN OF ENGIS AND CHAUVAUX.

THE last *Bulletin* of the Belgian Academy contains, among other matters, a somewhat long account of a very interesting discourse, with the above title, to which we have before briefly alluded, delivered by M. Spring, at the annual meeting of the Academy, on the 16th of December last.

M. Spring, whose labours are not unknown to those engaged in the study of man's antiquity, had for object to show that the materials now at hand, though fragmentary to a degree, afford a groundwork by no means to be despised, for a severe scientific induction, and though of course the lost history of early man will be more accurately reconstructed when facts are multiplied, he yet ventures to give a *croquis* of a scheme of classification of human life-periods, based upon our present knowledge, which he very carefully recapitulates in his lecture.

Let us begin by stating that M. Spring is no friend to the successive creation theory, nor does he hold with those who—to use his own words—look upon 'le créateur comme un artiste qui aurait pour ainsi dire fait école, et qui ne serait parvenu à la perfection qu'après s'être essayé inutilement à plusieurs ébauches.' And in this direction he goes farther than many, for in his classification, which we shall give presently, he begins with the man of Saint Prest, who he asserts was coeval with the *Elephas meridionalis*. He says we are by no means bound to disbelieve that primeval man was familiar with the hideous and monstrous reptiles which the cretaceous and jurassic systems have preserved for our investigations. The pterodactyle especially is singled out as the real prototype of all the dragons which have been slain from the times of Apollo to those of St. George, and truly, the belief in them, among the primitive peoples, was as wide-spread as the belief in a universal flood.

The men of Engis M. Spring considers as a race apart—a troglodytic race—both dolichocephalic and orthognathic, with a small frontal capacity and large occipital one, large orbits, slightly prominent and concave superciliary eminences, large incisors, and a mean stature.

Whence came they then, these men of Engis? The way is cleared by the remark that Germany has no evidence to give on the question of diluvial man, while it abounds from Southern France to the Western Highlands. At this time England and Ireland were not separated from the Continent, and according to Forbes's conjecture, the Thames emptied itself into the Rhine. The volcanoes of the Eifel were still in activity, and Scotland and Scandinavia were still under their frozen mantle. May we think, then, that this race emigrated from the South, along the Mediterranean, scaled the hills of Central France, and the plateaux of Ardenne, and thence spread over the plains of Picardy and continental England?

While, however, the Channel was forming, another race of men appears on the scene, a race that has left its mark at Chauvaux, in the Kjökenmøddinger of Denmark, and the pile-works of Switzerland, who buried their dead at Aurignac and St. Jean-d'Alcos, and lived in caves at Lourdes, Massat, Savigné, and Bruniquel. We may, however, here remark that, according to Lartet, the Kjökenmøddinger were long subsequent to the formation of the English Channel and the Aurignac cave deposits.

This race, a race of brachycephales, and of small stature, M. Spring asserts, may belong to the Tschoude, or Fins, the ancestors of our present Laplanders. Before the arrival of the Celts and Scandinavians, they appear to have possessed the shores of the Baltic, and spread thence over the south of Scandinavia, the Danish islands, Jutland, and the plains of Mecklenburgh. While one section of them ventured to England and Ireland, another followed the Meuse, and we may look upon Chauvaux as one of their first stations. But they did not halt here. Central France was invaded, and Switzerland reached, the Pyrenees were

crossed, while a third branch reached the maritime Alps, and thence more southward still, as far as Sicily. It is possible even that the first and second branches may still have many descendants in the Basques, and the brachycephalic inhabitants of the Grisons, while it is also to be noted that the present Suabians are also brachycephalic. We must not stop to analyse the evidences of progress in the arts on which M. Spring founds these lines of march; we will pass on to his classification.

I. *Preglacial (or Mythologic) Age*. In this, man was the contemporary of the *Elephas meridionalis*, of 'dragons,' and generally of the surviving large reptiles of tertiary times.\* Here are classed the men of Saint Prest, and possibly those of Denise.

II. *Postglacial (or Heroic) Age*. In this a race of dolichocephalic men existed, along with the great pachyderms and the cave-bear. Our present rivers had not settled down to their present channels, the British Isles were not separated from the Continent, and Scandinavia was still covered with glaciers. This race is represented by the men of Engis, Moulin-Quignon, Clichy, Kent's Hole, Brixham, &c.

III. *Diluvial (or Troglodytic) Age (Age of the Red Diluvium)*. The volcanoes of Central Europe were by this time tranquil, the present seas and rivers were marked out, the fauna and flora contained only some species which were gradually retiring to the north and elevated mountains. The men of Chauvaux, the troglodytes of Central France and the Pyrenees, the most ancient inhabitants of the pile-works of Switzerland and Ireland, the men of the turbaries, and the Kjökenmøddinger of Denmark, are here classed.

IV. *The Mixed (or Celto-Germanic) Age*. Arms and stone weapons and tools, are mixed with others of bronze and iron. The worked flints of the alluvial beds of Hainault and Namur, the tumuli of Mecklenburgh, Denmark, Brittany, and the lake-dwellers of Western Switzerland belong to this period.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

It is with deep regret that we announce the sudden death, by apoplexy, of M. Gratiolet, Professor of Zoology of the Faculty of Sciences in Paris, which took place on the 17th inst. M. Gratiolet had not reached his fiftieth year, and the day before his death was in full health and vigour, engaged at his work at the Museum of Natural History. At two o'clock in the afternoon he was seized with a fit of apoplexy, and was immediately taken to his home. At four o'clock next morning he ceased to breathe. His researches in the comparative anatomy of the nervous system and the structure of the brain had placed him in the foremost rank of scientific men of the present day. His command of language gave him a very high position in the lecture-room, and his aptitude for metaphysical studies gave to his works an originality which will be appreciated both by philosophers and men of science. He has been taken away from us at the moment when he seemed to be on the point of reaping the fruits of his years of patient labour.

We have received a Syllabus of Lectures which the Astronomer Royal is about to give in the Royal School of Naval Architecture at South Kensington, on the 9th, 16th, and 23rd March, 'On Magnetic Errors, Compensations, and Corrections, with special reference to Iron Ships and their Compasses.' Though single lectures may have previously been given, this will be the first course of lectures on this important subject which has been delivered in the country, and therefore it will be looked forward to with the greatest interest. The subject will be treated under the following heads:—1. 'Terrestrial Magnetism, and the Magnetism of Permanent Magnets.' 2. 'Transient Induced Magnetism of Iron.' 3. 'Sub-permanent Magnetism of Iron.' 4. 'Correction of Magnetic Disturbing Forces.' 5. 'Magnetism of Ships, especially of Iron Ships, and Correction of their Magnetic Disturbing Forces on the Ship's Compass.' It is probable that the first lecture will extend to the beginning of the third head, and that the second lecture will advance to the beginning of the fifth head. At the close of each lecture the Astronomer Royal will wait to give separate explanations to any individual members of the class. The syllabus has been prepared with the utmost care, and consists of twenty-seven

\* M. Spring's speculations are surely somewhat in advance of the present state of our knowledge. When we have a shadow of evidence of the existence of Pterodactyles after the cretaceous epoch, or of Man before the miocene period, it will probably be soon enough to indulge in the supposition that the tradition of the dragon of Wantley, e.g., had an historical foundation.

pages, which form a most admirable *aide mémoire* of the facts to be dealt with.

We have been asked by a correspondent the meaning of a remark in which we questioned whether M. Faye's theory of sun spots was quite in accordance with the received laws of radiation and absorption. M. Faye seems to think that the comparative darkness which characterizes a spot need not indicate the presence of matter of a lower temperature than the photosphere; but that this darkness may be explained by the presence of gas of a temperature not lower than the photosphere, which gas radiating very little light may give the impression of comparative darkness. It is this explanation which we think is liable to be called in question. Let us suppose that the interior of the sun is filled with gas, say, of a temperature equal, to that of the photosphere. If this gas be nearly transparent it will no doubt give out very little light of its own, but then it will stop very little light from the opposite side of the sun; if it be nearly opaque it will give out a great deal of light of its own, but then it will stop nearly all the light from the opposite side of the sun. But whether transparent or opaque, since it is placed between us and the opposite luminous envelope of the sun, and is of the same temperature as the envelope, the result we think will be that the combined radiation will be equal to that of the envelope, so that there will be no difference of brightness. *A fortiori* if the temperature of the gas be greater than that of the envelope we cannot surely have the appearance of comparative darkness. This point, among others, is treated of in a letter from Mr. Herbert Spencer, which will be found below.

#### SCIENTIFIC CORRESPONDENCE.

##### THE CONSTITUTION OF THE SUN.

88, Kensington Gardens Square, Feb. 21.

THE hypothesis of M. Faye, which you have described in your numbers for Jan. 28 and Feb. 4, is to a considerable extent coincident with one which I ventured to suggest in an article on 'Recent Astronomy and the Nebular Hypothesis,' published in the *Westminster Review* for July 1858. In considering the possible causes of the immense differences of specific gravity among the planets, I was led to question the validity of the tacit assumption that each planet consists of solid or liquid matter from centre to surface. It seemed to me that any other internal structure which was mechanically stable, might be assumed with equal legitimacy. And the hypothesis of a solid or liquid shell having its cavity filled with gaseous matter at high pressure and temperature, was one which seemed worth considering, since it promised an explanation of the anomalies named, as well as sundry others.

Hence arose the inquiry—What structure will result from the process of nebular condensation? Starting with a rotating spheroid of æiform matter, in the latter stages of its concentration, but before it has begun to take a liquid or solid form, it was argued that the actions going on in it will be these:—increasing aggregation, and consequent evolution of heat, which must be greater at the centre than at the surface; resulting want of equilibrium, and the setting up of a circulation of gases from the hottest part to the coolest part, along lines of least resistance to expansion; and hence an establishment of constant currents from the centre along the axis of rotation towards each pole, followed by a flowing over of the accumulation at each pole in currents along the surface to the equator: such currents being balanced by the continual collapse, towards the centre, of gaseous matter lying in the equatorial plane. It was further argued that gases travelling from the centre by way of the poles to the equator, must be cooled, first by expansion on approaching the surface, and afterwards by freedom of radiation into space; and it was hence inferred that the outside of the spheroid at the equator will be the place of greatest refrigeration. It was concluded that the earliest precipitation will therefore occur in that region.

An equatorial belt of vapour will be first formed, and, widening into a zone, will by and by begin to condense into fluid (liquid). Gradually this fluid (liquid) film will extend itself on each side the equator, and, encroaching upon the two hemispheres, will eventually close over at the poles: thus forming a thin hollow globe, or rather spheroid, filled with gaseous matter. We do not mean that this condensation will take place at the very outermost surface; for probably, round the denser gases forming the principal mass, there will extend strata of gases too rare to be entangled in these processes. It is the surface of this inner spheroid



of denser gases to which our reasoning points as the place of earliest condensation.'

'The internal circulation we have described, continuing, as it must, after the formation of this liquid film, there will still go on the radiation of heat, and the progressive aggregation. The film will thicken at the expense of the internal gaseous substances precipitated upon it. As it thickens, as the globe contracts, and as the gravitative force augments, the pressure will increase; and the evolution and radiation of heat will go on more rapidly. Eventually, however, when the liquid shell becomes very thick, and the internal cavity relatively small, the obstacle put to the escape of heat by this thick liquid shell, with its slowly circulating currents, will turn the scale; the temperature of the outer surface will begin to diminish, and a solid crust will form while the internal cavity is yet unobliterated.' pp. 215, 216.

Omitting the various confirmations which this *a priori* conclusion was shown to derive from the contrasted specific gravities of the planets, as well as from sundry other peculiarities they present, I will pass to the deductions respecting the constitution of the sun which were drawn from this hypothesis. The process of condensation being in its essentials the same for all concentrating nebular spheroids, planetary or solar, it was argued that the sun is still passing through that incandescent stage which all the planets have long ago passed through: his later aggregation, joined with the immensely greater ratio of his mass to his surface, involving the comparative lateness of cooling. Supposing the sun to have reached the state of a molten shell, inclosing a gaseous nucleus, it was concluded that this molten shell, ever radiating its heat but ever acquiring fresh heat by further integration of the sun's mass, well be constantly kept up to that temperature at which its substance evaporates.

'If we consider what must have been the state of things here when the surface of the Earth was molten, we shall see that round the still molten surface of the Sun there probably exists a stratum of dense æriform matter, made up of sublimed metals and metallic compounds, and above this a stratum of comparative rare medium analogous to air. What now will happen with these two strata? Did they both consist of permanent gases, they could not remain separate: according to a well-known law, they would eventually form a homogeneous mixture. But this will by no means happen when the lower stratum consists of matters that are gaseous only at excessively high temperatures. Given off from a molten surface, ascending, expanding, and cooling, these will presently reach a limit of elevation above which they cannot exist as vapour, but must condense and precipitate. Meanwhile, the upper stratum, habitually charged with its quantum of these denser matters, as our air with its quantum of water, and ready to deposit them on any depression of temperature, must be habitually unable to take up any more of the lower stratum; and, therefore, this lower stratum will remain quite distinct from it. We conclude, then, that there will be two concentric atmospheres, having a definite limit or separation.' pp. 222, 223.

To a revised edition of this essay, republished along with others in November 1863, I made the following additions:—

'Since the foregoing paragraph was originally published, in 1858, the proposition it enunciates as a corollary from the nebular hypothesis, has been in great part verified. The marvellous disclosures made by spectrum-analysis, have proved beyond the possibility of doubt, that the solar atmosphere contains, in a gaseous state, the metals iron, calcium, magnesium, sodium, chromium, and nickel, along with small quantities of barium, copper, and zinc. . . . And here let us not omit to note also, the significant bearing which Kirchhoff's results have on the doctrine contended for in a foregoing section. Leaving out the barium, copper, and zinc, of which the quantities are inferred to be small, the metals existing as vapours in the Sun's atmosphere, and by consequence as molten in his incandescent body, have an average specific gravity of 4.25. But the average specific gravity of the Sun is about 1. How is this discrepancy to be explained? To say that the sun consists almost wholly of the three lighter metals named, would be quite unwarranted by the evidence: the results of spectrum-analysis would just as much warrant the assertion that the Sun consists almost wholly of the three heavier. Three metals (two of them heavy) having been already left out of the estimate because their quantities appear to be small, the only legitimate assumption on which to base an estimate of specific gravity, is that the rest are present in something like equal amounts. Is it, then, that the lighter metals

exist in larger proportions in the molten mass, though not in the atmosphere? This is very unlikely: the known habitudes of matter rather imply that the reverse is the case. Is it, then, that under the conditions of temperature and gravitation existing in the Sun, the state of liquid aggregation is wholly unlike that existing here? This is a very strong assumption: it is one for which our terrestrial experiences afford no adequate warrant; and if such unlikeness exists, it is very improbable that it should produce so immense a contrast in specific gravity as that of 4 to 1. The more legitimate conclusion is that the Sun's body is not made up of molten matter all through; but that it consists of a molten shell with a gaseous nucleus. And this we have seen to be a corollary from the nebular hypothesis.'

The conception of the sun's constitution, thus set forth, is like that of M. Faye in so far as the successive changes, the resulting structures, and the ultimate state are concerned; but unlike it in so far as the sun is supposed to have reached a later stage of concentration. As I gather from your abstract of M. Faye's paper, he considers the sun to be at present a gaseous spheroid, having an envelope of metallic matters precipitated in the shape of luminous cloud, the local dispersions of which, caused by currents from within, appear to us as spots; and he looks forward to the future formation of a liquid film, as an event that will rapidly be followed by extinction. Whereas the above hypothesis is that the liquid film already exists beneath the visible photosphere, and that extinction cannot result until, in the course of further aggregation, the gaseous nucleus has become so much reduced, and the shell so much thickened, that the escape of the heat generated is greatly retarded. I think this view escapes some objections to which that of M. Faye is open; and that it harmonizes with the appearances as well, if not better. Let us contrast the two.

Though the specific gravity of the sun is so low as almost to negative the supposition that its body consists of solid or liquid matter from centre to surface, yet it seems higher than is probable for a gaseous spheroid with a cloudy envelope. Possibly, notwithstanding intense temperature, the gravitation of the sun's substance towards its centre might be great enough to produce considerable density in its interior; but that the interior density of a gaseous medium might be thus made great enough to give the entire mass a specific gravity equal to that of water, is a strong assumption. Near its surface the heated gases can scarcely be supposed to have so high a specific gravity; and if not, the interior must be supposed to have a much higher specific gravity. Again, M. Faye's hypothesis appears to be espoused by him, partly because it affords an explanation of the spots; which are considered as openings in the photosphere, exposing the comparatively non-luminous gases filling the interior. But if these interior gases are non-luminous from the absence of precipitated matter, must they not for the same reason be transparent? And if transparent, will not the light from the remote side of the photosphere, seen through them, be nearly as bright as that of the side next to us? By as much as the intensely-heated gases of the interior, are disabled by the dissociation of their molecules from giving off luminiferous undulations; by so much must they be disabled from absorbing the light transmitted through them. And if their great light-transmitting power is exactly complementary to their small light-emitting power, there seems no reason why the interior of the sun, disclosed to us by openings in the photosphere, should not appear as bright as its exterior.

Take now the supposition that a more advanced state of concentration has been reached. A shell of molten metallic matters enclosing a gaseous nucleus still higher in temperature than itself, and ever giving off, in the shape of heat, that motion which the molecules of the whole mass lose as they approach the common centre of gravity, will be continually raised to the highest temperature consistent with its state of liquid aggregation. Unless we assume that simple radiation suffices to give off all the heat generated by progressive integration, we must conclude that the mass will be raised to that temperature at which part of its heat is absorbed in vaporizing its superficial parts. The atmosphere of metallic gases hence resulting, cannot continue to accumulate without eventually reaching a height above the sun's surface, at which the cooling caused by radiation and rarefaction will cause condensation into cloud—cannot, indeed, cease accumulating until the precipitation from the upper limit of the atmosphere balances the evaporation from its lower limit. This upper limit of the atmosphere of metallic gases, whence precipitation is perpetually taking place, will form

the visible photosphere—partly giving off light of its own, partly letting through the more brilliant light of the incandescent mass below. This conclusion harmonizes with the appearances. Sir John Herschel, advocating though he does an antagonist hypothesis, gives a description of the sun's surface which agrees very completely with the process here supposed. He says:—

'There is nothing which represents so faithfully this appearance as the slow subsidence of some flocculent chemical precipitate into a transparent fluid, when viewed perpendicularly from above: so faithfully indeed, that it is hardly possible not to be impressed with the idea of a luminous medium, intermixed but not confounded, with a transparent and non-luminous atmosphere, either floating as clouds in our air, or pervading it in vast sheets and columns like flame or the streamers of our northern lights, directed in lines perpendicular to the surface.'

If the constitution of the sun be that which is above inferred, it does not seem difficult to conceive still more specifically the production of these appearances. Everywhere, throughout the atmosphere of metallic vapours which clothes the solar surface, there must be ascending and descending currents. The magnitudes of these currents will obviously depend on the depth of this atmosphere: if it is shallow, the currents will be small; but if many thousands of miles deep, the currents may be wide enough to render visible to us the places at which they impinge on the limit of the atmosphere, and the places whence the descending currents commence. The top of an ascending current will be a space over which the thickness of condensed cloud is the least, and through which the greatest amount of light from beneath penetrates. The clouds perpetually formed at the top of such a current, will be perpetually thrust aside by the uncondensed gases rising from below them; and, growing while they are thrust aside, will collect in the spaces between the ascending currents, where there will result the greatest degree of opacity. Hence the mottled appearance—hence the 'pores' or dark interspaces separating the light-giving spots.

Of the more special appearances which the photosphere presents, let us take first the faculæ. These are ascribed to waves in the photosphere; and the way in which such waves might produce an excess of light, has been variously explained in conformity with various hypotheses. What would result from them in a photosphere constituted and conditioned as above supposed? Traversing a canopy of cloud, here thicker and there thinner, a wave would cause a disturbance very unlikely to leave the thin and thick parts without any change in their average permeability to light. There would probably be, at some parts of the wave, extensions in the areas of the light-transmitting clouds, resulting in the passage of more rays from below. Another phenomenon, less common but more striking, appears also to be in harmony with the hypothesis. I refer to those spots, of a brilliancy much greater than that of the photosphere, which are sometimes observed. In the course of a physical process so vast and so active as that here supposed to be going on in the sun, we may expect that concurrent causes will occasionally produce ascending currents much hotter than usual, or more voluminous, or both. One of these, on reaching the stratum of luminous and illuminated cloud forming the photosphere, will burst through it, dispersing and dissolving it, and ascending to a greater height before it begins itself to condense: meanwhile allowing to be seen, through its transparent mass, the incandescent molten shell of the sun's body.

But what of the spots commonly so called? it will be asked. In the essay from which the above passages are quoted, it was suggested that refraction of the light passing through the depressed centres of cyclones in this atmosphere of metallic gases, might possibly be the cause; but this, though defensible as 'a true cause,' appeared on further consideration to be an inadequate cause. Keeping the question in mind, however, and still taking as a postulate the conclusion of Sir John Herschel, that the spots are in some way produced by cyclones, I was led, in the course of the year following the publication of the essay, to an hypothesis which seemed more satisfactory. This, which I named at the time to Professor Tyndall, had a point in common with the one afterwards published by Professor Kirchhoff, in so far as it supposed cloud to be the cause of darkness; but differed in so far as the cause of the cloud was assigned. More pressing matters prevented me from developing the idea for some time; and afterwards, I was deterred from including it in the revised edition of the essay, by its inconsistency with the 'willow-leaf' doctrine, at that time



dominant. The reasoning was as follows:—The central region of a cyclone must be a region of rarefaction, and consequently a region of refrigeration. In an atmosphere of metallic gases rising from a molten surface, and presently reaching a limit at which condensation takes place, the molecular state, especially towards its upper part, must be such that a moderate diminution of density and fall of temperature, will cause precipitation. That is to say, the rarefied interior of a solar cyclone will be filled with cloud: condensation, instead of taking place only at the level of the photosphere, will here extend to a great depth below it, and over a wide area. What will be the characters of a cloud thus occupying the interior of a cyclone? It will have a rotatory motion; and this it has been seen to have. Being funnel-shaped, as analogy warrants us in assuming, its central parts will be much deeper than its peripheral parts, and therefore more opaque. This, too, corresponds with observation. Mr. Dawes has discovered that in the middle of the spot there is a blacker spot: just where there would exist the funnel-shaped prolongation of the cyclonic cloud down towards the sun's body, the darkness is greater than elsewhere. Moreover, there is furnished an adequate reason for the depression which one of these dark spaces exhibits. In a whirlwind, as in a whirlpool, the vortex will be below the general level; and all around, the surface of the medium will descend towards it. Hence, a spot seen obliquely, as when carried towards the sun's limb, will have its umbra more and more hidden, while its penumbra still remains visible. Nor are we without some interpretation of the penumbra. If, as is implied by what has been said, the so-called 'willow-leaves' or 'rice-grains,' are the tops of the currents ascending from the sun's body; what changes of appearance are they likely to undergo in the neighbourhood of a cyclone? For some distance round a cyclone, there will be a drawing in of the superficial gases towards the vortex. All the luminous spaces of more transparent cloud forming the adjacent photosphere, will be changed in shape by these centripetal currents: they will be greatly elongated; and there will so be produced that 'thatch'-like aspect which the penumbra presents.

Of course these views are to be regarded simply as speculative, in common with all others at present current respecting the sun's structure. But in the absence of any hypothesis supported by something like scientific proof, it has seemed to me well to suggest this one; as being warranted by established physical principles, and having a general congruity with the appearances.

HERBERT SPENCER.

# PROCEEDINGS OF FOREIGN ACADEMIES.

## PARIS.

ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.—Jan. 30.—M. Becquerel read a memoir 'On the Temperature of the Earth from 1 metre to 36 metres below the Surface, and on that of the Air up to 21.25 metres.' Memoirs were also read 'On the Inequalities of the Longitude of the Moon, due to the perturbing Action of the Sun,' by M. Delaunay; 'On Public Instruction in Chili,' by M. Gay; and 'On the Reciprocal Action of Cream of Tartar and Sulphate of Lime, with reference to Wines treated with Plaster of Paris,' by MM. Bussy and Buignet.—A communication was read from M. Matteucci 'On the Results obtained by M. Gorini by a Process of his Invention for the Preservation of Dead Bodies,' to which we shall return.—Memoirs were read 'On the telluric Lines of the Solar Spectrum,' by M. J. Janssen; we have already given the main points of this note. 'On the Combustion of Coal and Coke in the Furnaces of Locomotives and of Fixed Boilers,' by M. de Commines de Marsilly; 'On the Difficulties generally indicated in the Manufacture of Beet-root Sugar during the Season of 1863 and 1864,' by MM. Lepage and Cuisinier; 'On the Analysis of some Lead-ores from the Mines of Pontgibaud,' by MM. Mené and Courrat; and 'On a new Application of his Respiratory Apparatus,' by M. de Lacroix.—Notes were communicated 'On the Tannin of the Leguminosæ,' by M. A. Trécul; 'On some new Experiments on Electro-Magnets with Uncovered Wire,' by M. T. Du Moncel; 'On the Production, by Intercrossing, of a series of Wines with Coloured Juices,' by M. Bourchet; 'On the hyponitric Compounds,' by M. C. Marignac; 'On the Drinking Water of the Parisians,' by M. Robinet; 'On the Electricity developed by the Sulphurous Waters of Bagnères-de-Luchon,' by M. E. Lambron; and 'On an Electrical Machine with a Sulphur Plate,' by M. Richer.—M. Béchamp communicated a note 'On the Evolution of Heat as a Product of Alcoholic

Fermentation;' and M. Zaliwski one entitled 'Investigation of the Pile: new Process.'

Feb. 13.—M. Edmond Becquerel, referring to M. Bunsen's new thermo-electric pile (which we have already described), reminded the Academy in a long paper that as far back as 1827 his father and himself had remarked that a copper wire covered with sulphate is strongly positive when compared with one in the ordinary state, and they had made of two wires of this metal, one sulphurized at the surface and the other not, a thermo-electric pair which for some time was capable of producing electro-chemical decompositions. He described the great power of a new pile which he proposes as the result of his long investigations. This is made by the association of protosulphate of copper and copper in pairs. A long report was read on the memoir 'On the Mechanical Equivalent of Heat' submitted to the Academy by MM. H. Tresca and G. Laboulaye. Dr. Joule's result is slightly modified by the authors. We shall possibly return to this communication. Memoirs 'On Latent Heat,' by M. Dupré; 'On Poisonous Mushrooms and their Antidotes,' by M. Letellier; and 'On the Use of Ammonia in producing a Vacuum,' by M. Tellier, were presented. 'The Surfaces with a constant negative Curvature, and those applicable on those of minimum Area,' were treated of by M. Ulysse Dini. A specimen of silk from the new Senegal silkworm was presented by M. Guérin Méneville, and the rainfall at St. Omer for the last decade was tabulated by M. Coze.

Among the chemical papers were the following:—'On the Dissociation of Oxide of Carbon, Sulphurous, Chlorhydric, and Carbonic Acids, and the Decomposition of Ammonia,' by M. H. Saint Claire Deville; 'Analysis of Gas enclosed in Cementation Cases,' by M. Cailletet; 'On the Action of Bromine on Isopropyl Alcohol and on the Iodide of Isopropyl,' by M. Friedel; 'On the new Mode of quantitative Analysis of Sulphates,' by M. Verstraet; and 'On a Property of Sulphur,' by MM. Moutier and Dietzenbacher.

## BRUSSELS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.—Feb. 4.—The following memoirs were received:—'On the Action of Sodium-amalgam on Coumarin and Helicin,' by M. Swartz; 'On the Earthquakes of 1863,' by M. Alexis Perrey; 'Ornithological Observations in the neighbourhood of Brussels for the year 1864,' by M. Vincent.—MM. Plateau and Duprez presented their report on M. Delbœuf's paper on 'Optical Illusions,' read at the previous meeting. The object of this memoir is to explain the optical illusions to which the name of 'pseudoscopia' has been given by the German philosophers, in which objects do not appear under their true forms, or in proper proportions. For instance, a system of parallel lines, intersected obliquely by another series, appears to lose its parallelism. M. Kundt has already attempted to reduce these cases of 'pseudoscopia' to one system, by supposing that the eye appreciates angles, not by the arcs which bound them, but according to the chords of these arcs. This hypothesis does not, however, explain all kinds of pseudoscopia, and M. Delbœuf has sought to give a rational theory which shall include all cases of this phenomenon. According to him, the eye estimates angles and distances by the muscular effort necessary to direct it from one point to another, regard being had to the force expended in putting the organ in motion, and also that exerted in bringing it to rest again.

Reports were also presented on three botanical papers received at the previous meeting, by M. Ed. Morren and M. Coemans, which were ordered to be printed in the *Bulletin*.

M. Melsens read a short paper on the use of gun-cotton in warfare. He agreed with MM. Pelouze and Maury in rejecting the proposal to use this substance for such purposes, as has been done by the military commissions of all countries. He thinks, however, it may be employed with advantage for charging hollow projectiles, and especially those used for piercing the sides of armour-plated ships. He exhibited to the meeting several specimens of gun-cotton in different forms which were, in his opinion, fitted for such purposes.

A memoir by M. Montigny 'On the refractive Index of White Light refracted without sensible Dispersion' was ordered to be printed. The object of this paper, says the author, 'is to determine the position assumed by a ray of white light, relatively to the coloured rays of the spectrum, when it is refracted by a homogeneous medium without experiencing any sensible decomposition.'

M. Quetelet presented a copy of a work which he had just published, entitled 'Histoire des Sciences Mathématiques et Physiques chez les Belges.' The author's attention has been devoted

to this subject for nearly half a century, and in his leisure moments he has employed himself in examining the writings and other works of those savants who have distinguished themselves in Belgium.

## REPORTS OF LEARNED SOCIETIES.

ROYAL SOCIETY.—Feb. 11.—Major-General Sabine, President, in the chair. We continue our report with the next paper.

'Notices of the Physical Aspect of the Sun,' by Professor Phillips, F.R.S.—During many years, the peculiarities of the physical aspect of the sun have arrested the author's attention; but until Mr. Cooke furnished him with the accurate and convenient equatorial of his construction, there seemed little hope of being able to draw correctly or observe systematically. During some late occasions the author has endeavoured to obtain trustworthy representations not only of 'spots' and 'faculae,' but also of the general uneven ground-work of the sun's disk. The paper dealt with these appearances *seriatim*.

The *Faculae* look like half-shaded snowy mountains and like half-illuminated clouds, and one might suppose that in either of these cases their elevated parts should project beyond the general circular outline. This the author has never seen to happen, and if a little attention be given to proportions, it will appear very unlikely to be often observed. If the breadth of one of the ridges be taken at 4,000 miles, its average slope 30°, and its height at a quarter of the breadth, viz. 1,000 miles, this, if projected beyond the circular disk, would no doubt be discernible, for it would be equal to one-eight-hundred-and-fiftieth of the sun's diameter, or above 2". But the number of the ridges is so great and the crowding of them very near, and on the limb so close, that it is hardly possible for any ridge to be seen much above its fellow, whether the faculae be in the atmosphere or in the body of the sun.

*General Ground.*—The ground of the whole is a surface of complicated small lights-and-shades, the limits of which appear arched, or straight, or confused, according to the case; and the intermediate union of these produces sometimes faint luminous ridges, the intervals filled up by shaded interstices and insulated patches of illuminated surface. One eminent observer, seeing these under a high power, has compared them to willow-leaves, unarranged except where they conform in some degree to the great features of the spots. Using the same kind of analogy, one might say they seem to resemble any somewhat uneven surface composed of separate masses, presenting themselves in all directions and at different levels. Being of all shapes, they must generally have one transverse measure greater than the other, and thus appear for the most part oblong, but with no systematic concurrence of direction. The comparison used by another astronomer, of an irregularly-heaped surface of rice—here collected into ridges, there sunk into depressions which seem to be occasionally deepened into pits—has its advantages. On the whole, Professor Phillips prefers to be content with the less definite analogy to an irregular granulated and pitted surface, composed of small prominent lights complicated with intermediate shades of different intensities.

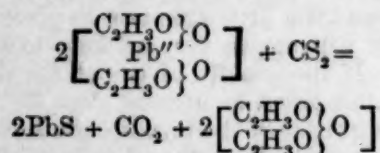
*Details of Spots.*—Professor Phillips refers to the striations and extensions in a radiating direction, which Mr. Dawes calls by the picturesque name of 'thatch'—a name singularly appropriate, if this border overhang, as is often supposed, a cavity or depression. This 'thatch,' according to Mr. Nasmyth, is formed by the concurrent outlines of his 'willow-leaves'; but Professor Airy, in commenting on Mr. Stone's recent communication to the Royal Astronomical Society, is reported to have called attention to the fact that the rice-like aggregations were 'quite distinct from the thatching so graphically described by Mr. Dawes in the penumbrae.'

Professor Phillips remarks: 'An extremely good way of viewing the spots is to project the sun's image on to a smooth porcelain screen, about a foot or eighteen inches in diameter; very smooth white paper answers very well. Thus tried, every imaginable degree of relative darkness appears in the spots, and the faculae come out bright and distinct. In this experiment, the spots seem so dark in the nuclei as to suggest the hypothesis that the parts of the sun to which they correspond really emit specially heat-rays, below the range of refrangibility which brings to our eyes light and the power of sight. Heat-rays and light-rays come to the earth together, but that is no reason for thinking they must spring in mixed pencils from every part of the sun equally. In my way of considering



it, this rather confirms the idea of the deep black nuclei being the sun's body, the penumbrae that body partially seen through the atmosphere, and the facular region transmitting to us rays which have acquired a higher refrangibility than that with which they started, by a peculiar change in the sun's atmosphere, which may justly be called his photosphere.

**CHEMICAL SOCIETY.**—Feb. 16.—Professor A. W. Williamson, Ph.D., F.R.S., President, in the chair. The names of Dr. William Johnson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and Mr. George Jones, 106 Leadenhall Street, were proposed for election as Fellows. The Secretary read a resolution of the Council referring to the election of officers for the ensuing year, according to which Dr. W. A. Miller was recommended for President; Mr. T. Redwood for Treasurer; Mr. Augustus Vernon Harcourt for Secretary; and Messrs. Duppa, Hadow, Buckton, and G. C. Foster as new members of Council. The present treasurer, Mr. Warren De la Rue, to be placed on the list of vice-presidents. A paper was read by Mr. John Broughton, B.Sc., entitled 'On a New Reaction for the Production of Anhydrides and Ethers.' The author found that dry acetate of lead was decomposed by bisulphide of carbon in sealed tubes at 160° C. with formation of acetic anhydride, according to the following equation:—



Acetate of silver gave similar results with even greater facility. In another experiment, by adding phenylic alcohol, the author obtained the acetate of phenyl. This mode of production appears to be applicable in many directions, particularly as a means of procuring other compounds of the phenyl series, and possibly also the double ethers and anhydrides.—Mr. J. Spiller then read a paper 'On the Oxidation of India Rubber.' The author found that caoutchouc when exposed to air in a fine state of division became gradually converted into a brittle resinous substance very similar to shellac; this change was discovered in connection with a material called 'waterproof felt,' which was supposed to be made by matting together the fibres of cotton wool by means of india rubber paste or solution applied by rollers. A sample of the fabric which six years ago showed evidence of having been made with pure india rubber, contained now only a minute quantity of the natural gum, all the rest having been converted into a brownish resin of the following composition, viz., carbon 64.00; hydrogen 8.46; oxygen 27.54. Mr. De la Rue confirmed the author's statement respecting the mode of manufacture of the waterproof felt, and Professor Abel said he met with this resinous substance during the examination of some unvulcanized waterproof clothing returned from the East some nine years ago; at that time he believed it to be evidence of adulteration with shellac.—Mr. Henry Bassett then communicated a 'Note on the Action of Chloropierin and Chloroform upon Acetate of Potash.' The chief products of these reactions were chloride of potassium, acetic ether, and biacetate of potash.—'An Account of a dense Brine from Saltsprings, Nova Scotia,' was sent by Professor How, D.C.L., of Windsor, N.S. The water was remarkable for containing unusually large quantities both of common salt and sulphate of lime; of the first-named ingredient nearly twice as much as sea-water, and about on a par with the strongest saline water of Canada. The density was 1.046 at 53° F. Analysis gave the following results:—

	grs. in gallon.
Chloride of sodium . . .	4133.50
Chloride of calcium . . .	51.91
Chloride of magnesium . . .	27.33
Sulphate of lime . . .	154.73
Carbonate of lime . . .	3.77
Carbonate of magnesia . . .	2.93
Carbonate of iron . . .	.18
Silica . . .	.56

Total dissolved constituents 4374.91

After a short discussion the meeting was adjourned until March 2, when Dr. Crace Calvert will read a paper 'On the Action of Silicate and Carbonate of Soda on Cotton Fibre,' and Professor C. L. Bloxham had promised a communication 'On the Action of Chlorine upon Arsenic Acid.'

**NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.**—Feb. 16.—Mr. W. S. W. Vaux, President, in the chair.

Mr. Samuel Smith was elected a member of the Society.

Mr. C. Roach Smith exhibited impressions of a

third brass coin of Carus, found near Walton, Norfolk. It was silvered, and had gold rings inserted through it, probably indicating a Saxon interment.

Mr. Arnold exhibited some Padouan forgeries—one a mould or bronze die for a medallion of Lucius Verus; a medallion of Dido; and the mould of the obverse of the medallion of Dido. Mr. Arnold also exhibited a dollar of John George II. of Saxony.

Mr. Vaux read a paper by himself 'On the Eccles Find,' in which he gave full details of the remarkable find of coins which took place on August 11, 1864, in the parish of Eccles, near Manchester. The coins found amounted in all to 6,217 pieces—so far at least as they have been recovered—and were transmitted as treasure-trove to the Duchy of Lancaster office. Mr. Vaux stated that the great bulk of the coins were what had been called *short-cross pennies*, and belong to the reign of Henry II., and perhaps to Henry III. With them were associated about 200 coins of the Scotch kings William the Lion and Alexander II., and of John of England, minted in Dublin during the time he was king. It had been hoped that the occurrence of so large a collection of money of the same class and character would have definitely set at rest the question whether or not these short-cross pennies ought to be attributed, as has been done by many numismatists, to Henry II. alone, or as has been urged with much force by some recent writers, partly to Henry II. and partly to Henry III. Mr. Vaux, however, stated that the result of a long and minute examination of these coins had not enabled him to pronounce a decided opinion one way or the other; that he was inclined to think one class, in which the king's portrait represents a young man, bearded, with a long thin face, and two curls on each side of it enclosing pellets, might not improbably be assigned to Henry III.; at the same time, Mr. Vaux remarked that he had met with no evidence in support of the further opinion that some of these coins ought to be attributed to Richard or John, of whom, as is well known, no specimens of *English* money have ever been met with; and urged the impossibility that either of these monarchs, had they struck coins during their respective reigns, would have continued on their own money the name of a preceding king. Mr. Vaux believed that the evidence of several large finds of this class of money proved at least this, that there must have been an abundant circulation at the time of Henry's death in A.D. 1189, and that it was not therefore unlikely that, owing to this circumstance, Richard, who lived the greater part of his reign on the Continent, and John who succeeded him, should have found it unnecessary to issue any fresh money—for England—during the twenty-seven years of their two reigns.

**METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.**—Feb. 15.—Mr. S. C. Whitbread, F.R.S., President, in the chair.

Dr. Valpy, Capt. Sprot, 83rd Regt., Lieut. Galloway, R.A., Messrs. F. Moser and R. Field, and Dr. Bartley were elected members.

Mr. Glaisher read his paper on the temperature of every day from fifty years' observations at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich; and remarked that notwithstanding this long series, there are 160 instances in which the difference between the temperature of consecutive days exceeded half a degree: of these 38 exceeded 1°, and one was as large as 1° 86', between the 14th and 15th days of November. The author said the day of lowest adopted temperature, viz. 35° 7', is January 8; it then slowly increases to 37° 0' on the 20th, and then rather quickly to 38° 4' on the 27th; the temperature then declines to 37° 7' on February 2, increases to 38° 9' on the 8th and 9th, and declines to 38° 1' by the 15th and 16th; increases day by day to 40° 2' on March 1 and 2, and is nearly stationary for several days, varying from 40° 1' to 40° 2' only from February 28 to March 7, then increases to 42° 0' on the 17th, differs but little from 42° for a week, or till March 24, increases then to 45° 4' by April 5, is stationary at this value till the 8th, then declines to 44° 9' by the 13th day; a quick increase then sets in, and at the end of April the temperature increases 4° 4', being as much as the increase which took place between the beginning of March and the middle of April; the increase continues at the beginning of May, and is 51° 7' on the 6th, when it is checked, and remains stationary on the 7th and 8th, then declines half a degree by the 11th day, the temperature on the 11th and 12th of May being 51° 2'; an increase then sets in, and on the 14th May the temperature is the same as on the 7th and 8th, viz. 51° 7'; a rapid increase now takes place, and on the last day of May the temperature is 56° 6'. At the beginning of June the quick increase shown at the end of May is checked, and a slight decline takes place

from 57° 4' on the 3rd to 57° 0' on the 6th and 7th; it increases to 59° 0' by the 14th, is stationary till the 17th, then increases slowly to 61° 9' by the 7th of July; this increase is checked till the 10th day, and then increases to 62° 5' by the 14th and 15th July—the absolute hottest days in the year; the temperature then declines to 61° 4' by the 20th, but this increases to 62° 4' for five days, viz., from July 30 to August 3, and this is the hottest period in the year, the temperature continuing longer at these high values than about the 14th and 15th of July, which are distinguished as the hottest days in the year. From August 4 a decline sets in, at first very slowly, as several days together appear of nearly the same temperature. After the 28th day it sets in decidedly and continuously, with very slight checks, to 40° 9' on the 25th and 26th November. A very decided and remarkable increase then sets in to 42° 3' at the beginning of December, and till the 7th day there appears but little change, and from the 8th day the temperature declines to 37° 2' by the 27th day, when again the decline is arrested. The temperature on December 31 rises to 37° 5', and finally declines to 35° 7' on the 8th January.

Mr. Glaisher's second communication was on the secular increase of mean temperature. He stated that the mean temperature of the 7 years ending 1863 had been so high as to increase the mean temperature of the year from 43 years' observations, viz., 48° 92' to 49° 04'. He then determined that the mean temperature of the first 25 years, ending 1838, was 48° 6', and of the 25 years ending 1863 was 49° 2'. The author then became desirous to see if this increase had been progressive, and found the mean of 29 years ending 1799 was 47° 7', of 30 years ending 1829 was 48° 5', and of 30 years ending 1859 was 49° 0'—proving that the secular increase of the mean temperature was 2°. This result he considered so important that he examined every probable source of error, and concluded that no instrumental errors would account for this increase. The questions he then set himself to investigate were, whether this increase had taken place in every month in the year, or in some months or seasons more than others; and he found a remarkable difference in the winter months—the greatest in January, whose mean temperature in the 29 years ending 1799 was 34° 7'; the mean of the next 30 years was 35° 7', and of the last 30 years was 37° 5', and every season showed increase. The author then selected every day of remarkably low and high temperature, and divided the results into groups; and it appeared that in the 25 years ending 1838 there had been 72 days in January whose mean temperature had been below 25°, and 14 only of such low temperature in the last 25 years; whilst in the former period there had been 75 days of temperature higher than 45°, and 109 days of temperature exceeding 45° in the latter. He treated every other month in the same way, discussed the early observations, and described the 29 years at the end of the last century, which would not at all apply to the description of the last 30 years. He said that the character of the climate at the end of the last century was certainly therefore very different from what it is now. Long continuance of frosts, and frequent and heavy falls of snow, are facts which can be recorded without instruments as well as with them. In the early period they were of more frequent occurrence than in the middle period of 30 years, and far more so than in the latest period. Thus the result, as formed by this comparison, without reference to instruments, and every investigation made, all tend to confirm the accuracy of the indication found by instruments, viz., that our climate in the last hundred years has altered; that the temperature of the year is 2° warmer now than it was then; that the month of January has increased still more; that the winter months are all much warmer; and that every month in the year seems to be somewhat warmer than before.

The author remarked that this result was indeed important if true, and he could not see how it was otherwise than true. Its effects will be to influence agricultural produce—new fruits may be introduced with advantage; the character of our people will be altered. The fact is of national importance. These results illustrate very forcibly indeed the advantage of long continuance of series of observations. Before such are begun, the arrangements should be well considered; but once begun, no changes if possible should be made, and all alterations and circumstances should be carefully noted, for if continued long enough, a reward will follow, which will repay every hour's attention which has been paid to the subject.

Who, looking at the great, the frequent changes of our climate—the mean temperature of one day in January as low as 10°, another as high as 52°; one



whole month as low as 23°·9, another as high as 45°·3; one year of 45° mean temperature, another of 52°—would have considered that even 100 years would have yielded the results here shown? This is the first time we have been able to speak with any confidence of this increase of temperature, an increase spoken of and dwelt on for years past by very aged people. He in conclusion expressed a hope that series of observations, now in progress over the world, will be patiently continued, for other questions now open themselves to us: for instance—Has any other part of the world become 2° colder in its mean annual temperature in the last 100 years? or has the world itself increased generally 2° in warmth? If the latter, some interesting astronomical facts would follow. Then many other questions press themselves on us, and make it extremely desirable that similar determinations to the above should be made as soon as possible at other parts of the world.

Mr. Eaton thought it possible that this change of temperature may have taken place at Greenwich, although not over the country at large, and referred it to the great increase in the population of London, and to the introduction of steam-engines and extension of manufactories, which necessitated a large consumption of coal. Professor Forbes, of Edinburgh, had carefully reduced a series of observations made near that city during 56 years, and found no difference in the mean temperature, but a comparison between those returns and a short series in the earlier part of the eighteenth century showed a very trifling excess of temperature.

Col. Strange doubted whether population exercised any influence in raising the temperature of a locality, and cited the example of Manchester as an instance in point.

Diagrams of mean European weather were exhibited by Mr. Cuming.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—Feb. 14.—Dr. J. E. Gray, F.R.S., in the chair. A letter was read from Dr. H. Burmeister, of Buenos Ayres, For. Mem., describing a new species of whale, proposed to be called *Balenoptera patachonica*, founded on a skeleton in the museum of Buenos Ayres, and giving particulars as to specimens of certain other cetacea in the same museum. Mr. Slater exhibited a photograph of an Australian lizard (*Moloch horridus*), stated to have been recently captured alive in Jersey, and from its peculiar appearance to have caused great excitement in that island.

Dr. A. Günther gave an account of the present state of his researches into the British species of salmonoid fishes, which he had undertaken whilst engaged in preparing the catalogue of the specimens of this family in the collection of the British Museum. Dr. Günther stated that the genus *Salmo* was essentially an arctic group, inhabiting the northern portions of both hemispheres, and becoming more abundant in species upon receding from sub-tropical into temperate latitudes. Dr. Günther was disposed to believe that the species of this genus to be found within British waters would be ultimately found to be much more numerous than had been hitherto suspected. From the materials at present at his command, he had already been able to distinguish what he believed would turn out to be four new species of the non-migratory group of true *Salmo*, besides identifying several others heretofore imperfectly distinguished. Dr. Günther requested the assistance of the Fellows of the Society and their friends in furnishing him with series of specimens of our native salmon and trouts from every part of the British Islands, stating that in this difficult group of fishes no certain conclusions could be arrived at without a large number of specimens for comparison. Dr. Günther exhibited the subjoined table as giving a list of the British species of *Salmo* with which he is at present acquainted:—

Subgenus I.—CHARRS ( <i>Salvelinus</i> ).		
1 Willughbi	Windermere, &c.	
2 Perisli	Llanberis Lakes, N. Wales.	
3 alpinus	Scotland.	
4 Grayii	Lough Melvin, Ireland.	
5 Colli	Lough Eske and L. Dan, Ireland.	
Subgenus II.—SALMONS ( <i>Salmones</i> ).		
a MIGRATORY SPECIES.		
1 salar	True Salmon of British rivers.	
2 Cambricus	'Sewin' of South Wales.	
3 trutta	'Sea Trout' of Scotland.	
b NON-MIGRATORY SPECIES.		
4 fario	England.	
5 Gaimardi	Scotland and NW. England.	
6 nigripinnis, sp. nov.	Mountain lochs of Wales (and Scotland).	
7 Levenensis	Loch Leven, Scotland.	
8 ferax	'Gt. Lake Trout' of Scotland and Wales.	
9 Orcadensis, sp. nov.	Lakes of Orkneys.	
10 brachy poma, sp. nov.	Firth of Forth.	
11 stomachicus, sp. nov.	Ireland.	

Mr. A. Newton exhibited a specimen of the Carolina Crake (*Porzana Carolina*), stated to have been recently obtained on the Kennett, near New-

bury, being the first recorded instance of the occurrence of this bird in this country. Mr. Newton also exhibited and made some remarks upon three bones of a large species of Dodo (*Didus*), recently discovered by his brother, Mr. E. Newton (Corr. Mem.), in a cave in the island of Rodriguez.

Dr. Gray gave a notice of the skull of a new species of bush goat, proposed to be called *Cephalophus longiceps*, which had been sent to the British Museum by Mr. du Chaillu.

Dr. P. P. Carpenter communicated the diagnosis of some new forms of mollusks from the Vancouver district of Western America.

A letter was read addressed to the Secretary by Professor J. J. Bianconi, of Bologna, relating to the systematic position of the extinct bird of Madagascar, *Aepyornis maximus*, which he was of opinion should be referred to the *Vulturidae*.

Mr. Gould exhibited and pointed out the characters of two new species of Australian birds (*Artamus melanops* and *malurus leuconotus*), discovered during the recent expedition into the interior of that country.

Mr. Fraser read a list of a collection of shells recently made by Mr. R. Swinhoe, in Formosa, and forwarded by that gentleman to Mr. Cuming's collection.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.—Feb. 6.—Sir E. Colebrooke, Bart., M.P., President, in the chair. The Rev. J. M. Fuller, was elected a Resident Member. The following abstract, by Mr. F. Hall, of a paper by Dr. Bhāu Dāji, of Bombay, containing his translation of an inscription in Sanskrit, was read.

At the conclusion of a paper by Dr. Bhāu Dāji, on the works of Āryabhaṭa and other Indian astronomers, read before this society in July of last year, reference was made to an inscription, recently discovered in the Bombay Presidency, from which a valuable corroboration is derived of the manuscript authority for the age of Bhāskara Āchārya.

Bhāskara Āchārya, it scarcely need be remarked, is one of the most authoritative of the various Hindu writers on pure mathematics and astronomy.

The inscription in question was found by Dr. Bhāu Dāji near the railway station of Chāliṣgām, about seventy miles beyond Nassik. It is engraved on stone, and is quite legible, except at the very beginning and end, where several letters have perished beyond recovery. Like the generality of similar Hindu documents, it is mainly in verse, consisting of twenty-four stanzas and a prose termination. The latter is in Old Marāṭhī, Sanskrit being intermixed, while the rest is in pure Sanskrit.

After an invocation to Ganeśa, it salutes Bhāskara Āchārya, who is eulogized as conversant in the Mīmāṃsā, Sāṅkhya, and Vaiśeṣika philosophies, in the Tantras, the Vedas, the mechanical arts, prosody, poetry, computation, astrology, and astronomy.

Then we have a genealogical deduction of the king of the country reigning at that time, Puruṣottama. He was of the Yadu dynasty, and was descended from Bhīllama, Jaitrapāla, and Singhana; all of whom are spoken of, with their successors, in inscriptions published by Mr. Wathen.

Next, the local subordinate chieftain, Hemādī, who had the charge of 1,600 villages, is commemorated, and a detail is given of his ancestry. Hemādī's immediate predecessor was his elder brother, Souha.

An account of the family of Bhāskara Āchārya follows. It appertained to the stock of Śāṇḍilya, and its remotest recorded representative was Trivikrama, a poet. From him sprang, successively, Bhāskarabhaṭṭa (on whom King Bhoja bestowed the title of Vidyāpati), Govinda, Prabhākara, Manoratha, Maheswara, Bhāskara Āchārya, Lakshmidhara, and Changadeva.

Changadeva established a college, professedly for the purpose of affording instruction in the writings of Bhāskara, (the chief of which is the *Siddhāntasīromani*, as the inscriptionist observes), and in those of his ancestors and descendants; and Changadeva endowed this college.

The date of the inscription, which came to light among the ruins of an old building, probably the college of Changadeva, is Śaka 1128, or A.D. 1206; and on comparison of this date with others (on copper) containing names herein specified, and dates, Dr. Bhāu Dāji infers that the year mentioned in Bhāskara's *Siddhāntasīromani*, Śaka 1036, corresponding to A.D. 1114, as that of his birth, may be received with all confidence. Nothing but the most unreasonable incredulity would now hesitate to accept this date, and the specula-

tions of Mr. Bentley, who would bring Bhāskara this side of Akbar the Great, may be considered as once more conclusively exploded.

As is well known, it has repeatedly been attempted to establish that the claims of the Hindu writings to antiquity have no better foundation than forgery and fiction. It is something, then, to have proved that even so late an author as Bhāskara Āchārya really belongs to the time that has been assigned him. That he flourished in the twelfth century has been most satisfactorily shown by the learned contributor of the paper here epitomized.

2. The Rev. S. Beal presented a MS. translation, by himself, of the 'Amitābha Sūtra,' from the Chinese, and read a paper on the age and character of the work in question. The 'Sūtra' is particularly interesting on account of the belief, so prominently developed in it, in a Western Paradise, to which so many thousand Buddhists look as their hoped for reward in another life. Though this belief has so much of foreign element in it as to justify the assumption that it was introduced into Northern Buddhism from the West, it may be considered as equally probable that it sprung up in India, at a period not later than the date of Kumārajīva (A.D. 400), and subsequent to the origin of the 'Prājñā Pāramitā' class of writings (A.D. 100).

PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—Feb. 17.—The Right Rev. the Bishop of St. David's, President, in the chair.—Mr. D. W. Nash read a paper 'On the Relation of the Languages of Ancient Gaul and Britain.' The author stated that Zeuss had given the weight of his authority to the opinion that the language of Gaul was so nearly allied to the Cymric branch of the Celtic, that if not the same with the British, represented by the Welsh, it was so nearly alike that the speech of the two peoples must have been mutually intelligible. The proofs in support of this opinion are given in the preface to the *Grammatica Celtica*. Many circumstances arising out of the early history and traditions of Britain render it desirable that this opinion should be reconsidered. The language of the Gaulish inscriptions, little investigated and only in part discovered at the date of the publication of the great work of Zeuss in 1853, disclose word-forms of a very archaic character, and nearly resembling the oldest Irish forms. The phonic system of the Gaulish appears more closely related to the Irish than to the Welsh. The paper, of which a portion only was read to the meeting, entered on a comparison of the several Celtic dialects with a view to enforce this relationship. The principal object of the paper, however, was to show that the method of forming the names of places and persons in the Gaulish is similar to that employed in the other Indo-European tongues, with the exception of the Latin, which in this respect corresponds to the two Neo-Celtic dialects and separates itself from the Gaulish. The method of forming patronymics in these languages follows that of forming names of places. The effect of this view of the Oghamic word *Corpimagas*, deciphered by Dr. Graves, was commented on, the author insisting that the mode adopted in the formation of these names belonged to the genius of the language, and was not affected by the passage of the language from the synthetic to the analytic stage. The names contained in the Gaulish inscriptions have the same character as those preserved in the classical writers. The author considered there was philological evidence to show that the Gauls of Caesar were a master race, who had probably entered Gaul from the east, along the southern line of the Danube, where they had come in contact with the Etruscan civilization, from which they had borrowed the arts of divination and the views concerning a future life, remarked by the classic writers as contained in the religious system, called Druidism, of the Gauls. The people whom they found in geographical Gaul were probably Cymry. The Gauls had in the middle of the first century occupied nearly the whole of Britain, where also they found and subjugated a Cymric people. With these views, the result of ethnological investigations, particularly those of M. Roget de Belloguet, were said to agree.

SYRO-EGYPTIAN SOCIETY.—Feb. 14.—Dr. Camps in the chair.—A paper 'On the Church of the Holy Sepulchre' was read by the Rev. John Mills. During one of his visits to Jerusalem, Mr. Mills had spent two nights in the church of the Holy Sepulchre, when he availed himself of the opportunity of examining the place more minutely than could be done on ordinary occasions; and his paper was a statement of the results. Having pointed out on a ground-plan of the church its various shrines and chapels, Mr. Mills called



# THE READER.

25 FEBRUARY, 1865.

attention to the three principal points of interest, viz., the tombs of Nicodemus, the holy sepulchre, and the chapel of Golgotha. The first is in the south-western corner of the church, in a dark vaulted chamber, which contains an irregular group of four tombs, with apparently two others in the western wall, blocked up. The chamber is built partly of masonry, and the two largest tombs are sufficiently large to admit a human body. But for the names now given them there is no historical foundation. Having minutely described this chamber, by the help of a ground-plan, Mr. Mills gave his opinion that the two larger ones had all the appearance of real ancient tombs, but that this fact could have no weight in the argument for the genuineness of the Holy Sepulchre, inasmuch as private and family tombs were not uncommon in the ancient city. The Holy Sepulchre was described as a small chapel, standing free by itself, and comprising two apartments—the ante-chamber, called the chapel of the angel, and the sacred tomb itself. The great point of inquiry here was, whether it is an excavation in the ancient rock, or a mere building? On this point Mr. Mills found it impossible to arrive at any satisfactory conclusion without injuring the building, because it has been most carefully encased with marble both within and without. The marble altar which stands over the sacred bed seemed to be an old sarcophagus fitted in. The only spot where the rock is exposed to sight is at the entrance, a long and narrow doorway from the chapel of the angel. This seemed to be made of one block of stone, and the anteroom itself a raised building. Here the author briefly reviewed the history of the sepulchre from Eusebius to the fire in 1808, and in comparing the plans of Arculf (695), and others with the present, could not but arrive at the conclusion that it has passed through several modifications, and that the several destructions of the church have demolished the rock-cave, the present tomb being a mere building.

In the chapel of Golgotha, at the north-eastern end of the church, are seen those signs of the crucifixion, which, if genuine, would at once establish the claim of the church to its title. These are the rent in the rock and the three holes of the crosses. On close examination, the rent has none of the appearance of a fissure, but of a carefully chiselled cut (3 ft. 6 in. long) in the surface of a smooth rock or stone. The holes (5 in. in diameter) seem to be of similar character; the two furthest being at a distance of 9 ft. 6 in. apart, with that of the Saviour's cross in the middle, but placed 2 ft. forward from the direct line. The workmanship, the size and the arrangement of these sacred spots preclude all idea of their having been the true site of the crucifixion; they were planned and executed for the occasion.

## MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Albemarle Street, 'On Electricity': Professor Tyndall.  
ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, at 4.—Lincoln's Inn Fields. 'On the Mammalia': Professor Huxley.  
INSTITUTE OF ACTUARIES, at 7.—12 St. James's Square.  
SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—John Street, Adelphi. 'On the Applications of Geology to the Arts and Manufactures, Lecture IV.': Professor D. T. Ansted. (Cantor Lecture.)  
SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION, at 8.—1 Adam Street, Adelphi. A Report will be presented from the Standing Committee of the Department of Jurisprudence, on 'The Law of Appeal in Criminal Cases.'  
GEOGRAPHICAL, at 8.30.—Burlington House. 1. 'On the Origin and Migrations of the Greenland Esquimaux': Mr. C. R. Markham. 2. 'Remarks on Dr. Petermann's Letter on North Polar Exploration': Captain Sherard Osborn.

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Albemarle Street. 'An Introduction to the Study of Chemistry': Professor Hofmann.  
CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—25 Great George Street, Westminster. Renewed discussion on Mr. J. England's paper, 'On Giffard's Injector.' And, time permitting, the following paper will be read: 'An Account of the Drainage of Paris': Mr. H. B. Hederstedt.  
ANTHROPOLOGICAL, at 8.—4 St. Martin's Place. 1. 'On the Physical and Psychological Characters of the Viti Islanders': Mr. W. T. Pritchard. 2. 'On the Anthropology of Linnaeus': Mr. T. Bendyshe. 3. 'On Further Remains from Keiss, near Wick, with a Note on the Human Skull by Mr. C. Carter Blake': Mr. J. Anderson, communicated by Mr. G. E. Roberts. 4. 'On some Human Remains from Chirbury': Mr. J. Hutchinson.  
MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL, at 8.30.—53 Berners Street, Oxford Street.  
ZOOLOGICAL, at 8.30.—11 Hanover Square. 1. 'On Land and Fresh-Water Shells of the Zambesi and Lake Nyassa': Dr. John Kirk. 2. 'On a New Species of Porpoise': Dr. H. Burmeister. 3. 'Observations on the Anatomy of *Nycticebus Javanicus*': Mr. St. George Mivart and Dr. Murie.

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Albemarle Street. 'On the Nervous System': Professor Marshall.  
ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, at 4.—Lincoln's Inn Fields. 'On the Mammalia': Professor Huxley.  
MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL, at 8.—53 Berners Street, Oxford Street. Anniversary.  
SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—John Street, Adelphi.  
PHARMACEUTICAL, at 8.—17 Bloomsbury Square.

### THURSDAY, MARCH 2.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Albemarle Street. 'An Introduction to the Study of Chemistry': Professor Hofmann.

ROYAL SOCIETY CLUB, at 6.—St. James's Hotel.  
ANTIQUARIES, at 8.—Somerset House.  
LINNEAN, at 8.—Burlington House.  
CHEMICAL, at 8.—Burlington House. 1. 'On the Action of Silicate and Carbonate of Soda on Cotton Fibre': Mr. C. Calvert. 2. 'On the Bihydrate of Oxide of Phenyl': Mr. C. Calvert. 3. 'On the Action of Chlorine on Arsenious Acid': Professor Bloxam. 'On a new Cornish Mineral': Mr. Church.  
ROYAL, at 8.30.—Burlington House.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 3.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, at 4.—Lincoln's Inn Fields. 'On the Mammalia': Professor Huxley.  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, at 4.—1 Burlington Gardens.  
PHILOLOGICAL, at 8.—Somerset House. 'On Christian Names as applied to Animals and Common Things': Mr. H. B. Wheatley.  
ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Albemarle Street. 'On the Temple and Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem': Mr. J. Ferguson.

## ART.

### GENERAL EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS.

THE success that would attend an open water-colour exhibition has admitted of no reasonable doubt at any time within the last five years. It could hardly be expected that a number of able artists would be content to remain much longer knocking at the doors of the two limited and exclusive bodies known as the Old and New Water-Colour Societies, or be satisfied with the subordinate position assigned to their works in the exhibitions of the Royal Academy or of Suffolk Street. The invitation to co-operate in the formation of a new exhibition was therefore met by a ready response, and upwards of a hundred exhibitors at once gave in their names as guarantors for the expenses attendant upon the undertaking. The general committee appear to be thoroughly representative, and calculated to inspire confidence; and the sub-committees of selection and hanging have performed their duties in such a manner as to have won general approval, subject of course to exceptional objection or reproach.

The promoters of the exhibition have printed on the first page of the catalogue a short notice of its nature and object, viz., 'The establishment of a gallery which, while exclusively devoted to drawings as distinguished from oil paintings, should not in its use by exhibitors involve membership of a society.' It is hardly possible to commend too highly the principle thus announced by the promoters. An open exhibition of this nature has not hitherto existed in London. The exhibitions of the Royal Academy, of Suffolk Street, and of the Water-Colour Societies belong exclusively to these bodies: and the works of non-members are either admitted by favour or altogether excluded from the walls. The British Institution is an open exhibition; but its management is involved in mystery, and no confidence is felt in its sense or justice. All painters who are not members of one of the constituted societies experience the difficulty of properly bringing their works before the public eye; but water-colour painters have chiefly cause to complain, as their works are absolutely excluded from the water-colour galleries in Pall Mall; and unless they show them at great disadvantage in Trafalgar Square and in Suffolk Street, they have no means of displaying them. We are glad, therefore, to hail the establishment of a new exhibition, and accept the principles upon which it is founded as no less applicable to an exhibition of oil paintings. A representative committee in which the profession can place confidence, and an open exhibition in which no claims are allowed but those of able performance and fair promise, have been the dream of artists for the last two generations. Two great exhibitions in London—one for oil pictures and one for water-colour drawings—totally unconnected with any societies and managed by representative committees, would, we should imagine, be more agreeable to the profession in general, as well as more stimulating to the progress of art, than the existing half-dozen exhibitions which have been successively founded to obviate the consequences of imputed injustice and wrong. So, indeed, has this last; but it is distinguished from all that have preceded it by the wisdom of its promoters in refraining to form themselves into another small *cliquish* society; and their motives deserve our respect no less than the object they have in view meets with our hearty concurrence.

The great majority of drawings exhibited are of small dimensions, and the prices attached to them mark a modest estimate of their value on the part of the artists. The agreeable aspect of the room is due to the good taste of the hanging committee, who have performed their difficult task with remarkable fairness and success. Although the gallery is small, more than 500 drawings have been hung, which we may take as the cream of

2,200 which were sent in for exhibition. The fact that 1,700 works have been rejected, half of that number for no other reason than want of room to hang them, proves the necessity for providing increased accommodation; and the confidence with which the plan of an open exhibition has been received by artists of all ranks may encourage the promoters to regard this experiment as the inauguration of what may become the most permanent exhibition in London.

In glancing at the list of exhibitors, we find, among many new names, others that are well known, while many of those painters who have hitherto been known to the general public only by their oil pictures have gladly availed themselves of the opportunity now afforded to exhibit works produced in the slighter material. Among figure painters we find the names of Messrs. Redgrave, Solomon, Cave Thomas, Gale, W. B. Scott, Talfourd, Poynter, and others; and among landscape painters those of Messrs. Dillon, Harry Johnson, Beverley, Oakes, Moore, and Fenn, all belonging to artists of repute. It is of great advantage to an artist to be able to test his abilities by working in another material, and at the same time to submit his works to competition with those of others who are considered to be proficient where he is an unpractised hand; while it is very interesting to the public to compare the relative strength or weakness imparted to an artist's work by the use of a familiar or strange material. Oil painters are, as a rule, successful when they take up water-colours, and we are not therefore surprised to meet with delightful examples in the gallery by some of those painters whose names we have mentioned above.

Messrs. W. B. Scott, Cave Thomas, Poynter, and S. Solomon, are the chief contributors of figure subjects. Mr. Scott's 'Returned from the long Crusade,' representing a knight in pilgrim garb, travel-stained and time-worn, at the moment of his recognition by his wife, is a fine and expressive drawing. The action of the lady is carefully studied, and is conceived with the feeling of a poet; and although the picture is weak in colour and ineffective as a whole, there are few works in the room that can be compared with it for serious motive and intelligence. Mr. Solomon's drawings are to be carefully observed, as their defects are more striking at first sight than the high qualities by which they are also distinguished. The head of the 'Antinous' (239), for example, is classical and beautiful, and the figure, listless and indolent, is truly conceived; but the poor drawing of the lower limbs and extremities is repellant to our ideas of Greek perfection, and tempts us to overlook the spirit of the design. The faults of his work are exaggerated in the drawings by Miss Solomon, who is one of the most accomplished of our female oil painters.

Mr. Poynter is a large contributor, and his works will probably attract more attention than admiration from the general public; and although it must be admitted, as in the case of Mr. Solomon, that the presence of the artistic faculty is indisputable in all he does, it is not to be wondered at that all who have not been educated to seek for it should turn away dissatisfied and vexed from so much that is positively ugly in the execution of his work; we may sincerely recommend to notice, however, two small landscapes (479) and (487), which are painted with great feeling and truth.

Mr. Cave Thomas exhibits two small high-class figure subjects—'The Students of Padua' (462), and 'Dante in Verona' (131)—both remarkable for correct drawing and a scientific arrangement of colours; accustomed to the execution of works on a large scale, this painter descends with facility to smaller pictures; he also exhibits a female life-sized head, badly hung, which looks rather black, though it appears to be executed with great care and finish.

An elegant little drawing by Mr. G. Thomas, of a 'Girl Chasing a Butterfly' (210), should not be passed over; neither should a life-sized head, well drawn and beautifully coloured, called 'Esther' (176), by Mr. R. Tucker. 'An Old Castilian' (252), by J. Burr, is a remarkably spirited sketch, true to nature and full of character. Two rustic figures, by Mr. J. Richardson (48) and (83), though somewhat crude and inexperienced, indicate promise; and a clever sketch called 'Yanum' (280) by Mr. W. H. Phillips is an agreeable contribution from this well-known painter. A very good drawing by Mr. A. Pasquier (a new name) called the 'Escort,' (87) may be noted as one of the best subject pictures in the room, and struck us at once as the work of an already accomplished artist.

But it is among the landscapes that the interest of the exhibition chiefly lies. Water-colour



painting is more especially the work of landscape painters, and among these contributions we find the names of many good artists altogether unknown to exhibition catalogues. In opening a new field for the exposition of so many works practically excluded from the established exhibitions, the promoters deserve the thanks of all. Probably the greatest attraction of the Dudley Gallery will prove to be the excellent landscapes of Mr. Arthur Severn, in which all will recognize an imaginative faculty restrained by good taste, and directed by earnest study of nature. It is not easy to signalize special examples where all are good; and it is unnecessary, as from their size and importance they cannot well be overlooked; but we may point to the drawing of 'A November Evening at Westminster' (142) as an instance of the display of power of the rarest kind among English landscape painters.

The drawings by Mr. Oakes will be looked at with great pleasure, and those by Mr. Beverley, so well known as the most delightful scene-painter living, will prove to us how much he paints from nature, and how little from the received traditions of his department. Mr. Vincent, whose drawings are but little inferior to the best landscapes in the recognized water-colour exhibitions; Mr. C. Aston, whose reminiscences of the Devonshire coast are so attractive; Mr. Joseph Nash, jun., whose elaborate drawings of 'Glen Coe' (137), and the 'Ardour Hills' (173) offer so remarkable a contrast to the works of Mr. Severn; Mr. J. L. Hall, who has painted so good a picture of 'Bantry Bay' (290); Mr. Ditchfield, Mr. W. S. Coleman, and many others whose names are new to us, have proved their title to a good position in the profession from the profits of which, as far as exhibitions go, they have been practically excluded. Of their drawings, and those of many others, we have no space left to speak; and for the same reason we must defer, for the present, any notice of the contributions of Mr. F. Dillon and Mr. Harry Johnson, who are large contributors and powerful supporters of the exhibition. The public gratification has been well provided for, and the interests of a large body of able, and in most cases, so to speak, of uncertificated artists, will be advanced by the happy foundation of the new General Exhibition.

#### MR. WALLIS'S COLLECTION OF MODERN PICTURES.

A COLLECTION of beautiful modern pictures, the property of Mr. Wallis, including highly important works of many of the most distinguished masters of the English school, and beautiful cabinet examples of the French, Dutch, and Belgian schools, was disposed of on Saturday last, at the rooms of Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Woods, in King Street, St. James's. The greater portion of these fine works have been obtained direct from the Royal Academy or other public exhibitions. Among the more interesting and valuable examples were the undermentioned:—Lots 43, 44, and 74, James Webb.—Elfled on the Rhine, and companion picture, size of each 45in. by 28in.; and The Life Boat, 56½in. by 35½in.—125 guineas (Holmes). 45. Copley Fielding.—Mountain Scenery, 26½in. by 21in.—95 guineas (Ames). 58, 64, and 5. A. Gilbert.—The Country Forge, 41in. by 25½in.; and two smaller works, Moonrise on the Banks of Loch Lomond, and the companion—A Hazy Morn, size of each 11in. by 8in.—110 guineas (Martin). 60 and 61. H. Schlessinger.—Prayer, oval, and the Pet Canary, the companion—105 guineas (Ames). 70 and 71. T. F. Dicksee.—'Joy' and 'Sorrow,' two beautiful ovals, 13½in. by 11½in. each—100 guineas (Bourne). 72 and 73. R. Ansdell, A.R.A.—Setter and Grouse, and the companion picture, similar subject; size of each, 16½in. by 11in.—105 guineas (Martin). Frederick Goodall, R.A.—The Young Gleaners; a charming example; 9½in. by 8in.—120 guineas (ditto). 76. W. F. Witherington, R.A.—Stacking Hay; a magnificent landscape, with many figures; 49in. by 37½in.—250 guineas (Graves). 80. E. Beranger.—The Young Mother; a beautiful example—100 guineas (Cox). 81-3, 121-2. T. Creswick, R.A.—Fine miniature examples of great beauty; the Meeting of the Waters, the Bermudas, the valley behind Moore's cottage, Sloperton Cottage, and Moore's residence near Paris, each 6in. by 8in.—165 guineas (Shaw and others). 85 and 86. Duverger.—Scratch-cradle, and the Broken Plate, the companion; two inimitable examples, each 9½in. by 12½in.—125 guineas (Ames). 91 and 92. T. Sidney Cooper, A.R.A.—Cows; Canterbury meadows and sheep, the companion picture; two grand and important works, size of each, 42in. by 29½in.

—460 guineas (Moore). 93. J. Sant, R.A.—Musing, a splendid female figure—100 guineas (Ames). 95. W. P. Frith, R.A.; Scene from 'Cymbeline,' a magnificent example; 41in. by 33½in.—450 guineas (Ames). 96. Anthony—The Glen at Eve; a large and fine work—105 guineas (Martin). 97. Alexander Johnstone.—The Burial of Charles I.; a large and important work, with numerous figures, 65½in. by 47in.—145 guineas (Bourne). 98. W. C. T. Dobson, R.A.—Rebecca; a beautiful example—175 guineas—(G. Earl). 101. David Roberts, R.A.—The Church of Santa Maria della Salute, Venice; a grand and important work of the lamented artist, 44½in. by 27in.—556 guineas (G. Earl). 103. H. Bright.—Rusthall Common; a splendid landscape, 52½in. by 30in.—120 guineas (Ames). 104. R. Redgrave, R.A.—Going to Service; a capital example, 39½in. by 30½in.—110 guineas (Martin). 107 and 115. W. E. Frost, A.R.A.—The Alarm, with many female figures, 11½in. by 6½in., and a miniature work, The Sea Nymphs, 5½in. by 4in.; both very fine—130 guineas (Shaw). 108 and 109. Fred. Goodall, R.A.—Two splendid examples, Felice Balarin reciting 'Tasso' to the people of Chioggia, 8½in. by 5½in.—120 guineas (Cox); and the Children in the Wood, a larger work, 11½in. by 16in.—154 guineas (Ames). 110. J. Linnell, sen.—Minding the Flock, a small but brilliant landscape, 12in. by 18in.—195 guineas (ditto). 112. E. Long.—'Love has its little cares, but want its great ones.'—Spanish proverb. A beautiful work, with numerous figures—34in. by 43½in.—160 guineas (Bourne). 118. F. R. Lee, R.A.—The Barleyfield; a grand landscape; 49½in. by 40in.—105 guineas (Ames). 119 and 120. A. H. Burr.—The Poor Helping the Poor; a noble work with many figures; 30½in. by 24½in.—225 guineas (Martin); and a smaller example, The Mask; a juvenile piece; 16½in. by 12½in.—85 guineas (Haines). 123. Calderon, A.R.A.—The Lover's Secret; two lovers in earnest conversation, a female domestic listening behind a screen—220 guineas (Ames). 124. E. M. Ward, R.A.—Charlotte Corday contemplating her Portrait prior to her Execution; size, 20in. by 23½in.; a splendid work—440 guineas (Martin). 125. W. Mulready, R.A.—The Old Receiving Houses on the Serpentine; 19½in. by 14½in. From the artist's sale—450 guineas (Lewis). 126. W. Collins, R.A.—Boys in Search of Wild Fowl, in a brilliant landscape; 15½in. by 18½in.—275 guineas (Bourne). 128. E. Frere.—The Writing Lesson; a charming work; 12½in. by 15½in.—170 guineas (Howard). 129. C. R. Leslie, R.A.—Juliet's Reverie; a splendid example, 11½in. by 9½in.—185 guineas (Wilson). 130. J. L. Gerome.—An Armenian Soldier; a charming work, 6½in. by 9½in.—155 guineas (ditto). 131. George Smith. Searching for the Will; a grand and important work, with numerous figures, 45in. by 30in. From the Royal Academy; 490 guineas (Harrison). 132. Copley Fielding.—Trath Bycan; a grand and magnificent landscape, 78in. by 54in.—250 guineas (Martin). This was the last picture in this beautiful collection. The amount realized exceeded 9,645/.

#### ART NOTES.

THE Exhibition of fine series of drawings by the late Charles Winston, illustrative of the art of painting in glass during the middle ages, will open under the auspices of the Archaeological Institute, in the rooms of the Arundel Society, on Monday, March 27th, and will continue for a fortnight. On Wednesday, the 29th, a discourse on the examples exhibited will be delivered by Mr. Gambier Parry, who has devoted much attention to the subject.

THE new associates elected by the old Water-Colour Society in Pall Mall are Mr. J. D. Watson and Mr. Shiel.

#### MUSIC.

##### CHAMBER MUSIC.

THE singular extension of the taste for serious instrumental music, during the past few years, may have naturally seemed, to many people, to be merely one of the caprices of fashion. Happily, however, there are many signs to show that the popularity which this sort of music has so suddenly acquired is by no means passing away, but is spreading further and becoming more permanent. The two principal enterprises which make chamber music their specialty in London, never prospered better, it seems, than they did last season. Mr. Ella's 'Record of the Musical Union' for 1864, shows that that excellent institution still goes on adding to its roll of members; and the director of the Monday Concerts tells us that his sixth season

was more productive than any of its predecessors. This winter we have had another series of concerts, similar in character, carried on by the 'Beethoven Society,' in Willis's Rooms. These have been very enjoyable evenings, and may be presumed to have answered the intentions of the promoters as the series is presently to be continued in a set of morning performances. Also, we have had to note the appearance of similar undertakings in the suburbs. An excellent series of fortnightly Quartet-Tuesdays has lately been concluded in the semi-rural neighbourhood of Hackney, and something of the same kind attracted the attention of amateurs, earlier in the winter, at Streatham. These examples furnish hints which we hope will be improved to some purpose by lovers of good music in other neighbourhoods. Places too remote to profit by the concerts in the heart of London might easily have, in this way, 'Musical Unions' of their own, and at a very moderate cost, if the principle of association, and a distributed guarantee, were judiciously applied. The spread of the same taste is shown, too, in what is doing in other parts of the country. One can scarcely take up a musical paper without seeing an account of a 'Classical' or 'Chamber' Concert, or a 'Recital,' in one or other of the great towns. Bristol, Nottingham, Brighton, and even much smaller places, have been distinguished in this way, while the larger cities, Manchester, Liverpool, and their commercial sisters, emulate and in some respects surpass the metropolis in their cultivation of music. The splendid new Exchange Hall of Birmingham, is about to be used, we observe, for a series of concerts, on the Monday popular model, in which Mr. Deichmann is to be the leader of the quartet. The same sort of music, too, is being cultivated by semi-private associations, such as that which meets under the designation of the 'New Philharmonic Society,' and under the direction of Herr Molique.

The persistence of the demand for more and more music of this sort by the educated public cannot have surprised any who know what immense stores of enjoyment are represented by the phrase, 'the chamber music of the great masters.' There was so much to learn, so much to know, that it only needed that the public should have a fair taste of the thing given them, and it was certain that they would ask for more. Fashion might have helped to give the first impulse to the demand, but can have little to do with its continuance. For fashion is freakish and capricious, and lives upon 'sensations,' and this class of music is just the one in which 'sensation' has no place whatever. The love of it depends upon the love of the pure elements of music, the power to comprehend and enjoy melodies in combination. A stringed quartet may be called the simplest possible form of complete music. It employs the minimum amount of mechanical apparatus requisite to produce full harmony. It has no means of massing sound upon sound, or of startling the ear by effects of tone. It depends only upon uncoloured combinations of melody and harmony. Subject, however, to these limitations, it exhibits the highest results that the art has attained; it is 'absolute music' in its simplest and yet in its richest form. The power, therefore, of enjoying such compositions is the best test of the possession of the musical faculty, and the set of the public taste in this direction is a happy proof that this faculty is very far more common than it was believed to be a little time ago.

But accepting the establishment of chamber-music concerts as an accomplished fact, a number of questions arise in regard to the manner of carrying them on. One of these, as being of present interest, we may touch upon here. A doubt is occasionally suggested as to the possible exhaustion of our existing repertoire of classical chamber music. To many the idea will sound simply absurd, but the feeling evidently haunts the minds of many musical amateurs, and is still more commonly expressed by professors of the art. Linked with this question, of course, is the much vexed one of the recognition of new musical talent; but without touching upon this—further than to say that no art can be in a healthy state while the possibility of progress is not recognized and provided for—it may be as well to point out how groundless is the fear alluded to. Putting aside all question of having recourse to the productions of contemporary brains or of composers of the second rank, it is quite certain that the works of three or four kings of the art contain enough in this kind to satisfy the demands of an ordinary lifetime—treating music, that is, as one of life's incidental enjoyments, not as its main business. To those who are immersed in the art as the chief employment of their lives it may perhaps be the matter of only a year or two to make themselves acquainted



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with all the quartets, trios and sonatas that Mozart, Beethoven, and Haydn wrote; but we prefer to regard music as one of the perpetual enjoyments of the many, not as the exclusive pursuit of the few, and taken in this way the works of these great men alone include a mass of compositions which, dealt out to the public week by week, would last a very long time indeed. A great work is never thoroughly enjoyed till it is familiarly known; and consider how long it takes really to know a quartet or sonata of Beethoven. To take a simple case, how many of those who think themselves the most thorough adepts really know the 'Kreutzer Sonata'? And would any one who has really known such a work be sorry to hear it once or twice a year for their whole lives long? What then of the composer's seventeen quartets, or of the thirty-two pianoforte sonatas, or of the thirty or more duets, trios, and other works in the sonata form? Or take up that most wonderful of books—few more extraordinary monuments of genius exist—Dr. Ritter von Köchel's 'Thematic Catalogue of the Works of Mozart'—a bulky volume of more than five hundred pages, consisting merely of the tune-headings of his works—a list equivalent to the first-line index of a poet's works. In the summary of that astonishing record (which comprises 626 separate works, from operas and masses to songs and minuets), the chamber-music items run thus:—pianoforte sonatas and fantasias, 22; pianoforte and violin sonatas, &c., 45; pianoforte pieces for four hands, 11; pianoforte trios, &c. with strings, 11; stringed duets and trios, 6; string quartets, 32; quintets, 9; besides a number of divertimenti, &c., which it is scarcely possible to classify. Then the eighty quartets and a long list of other works of Haydn would have to come into the account. Many of these pieces, no doubt, are mere bagatelles; but after making all deductions, what a priceless mass of beauty is there here stored up! and this without reckoning Mendelssohn, Spohr, Schumann, Dussek, Bach, Schubert, and some more, such as Heller, Bennett, Chopin, whom most of us would be sorry to forget. No, if we were condemned to be most sternly conservative, which we are not, we should have no great reason to complain. Life is not so long but that the inherited inspirations of the past in music would not suffice for the solace of its wearier hours. For the mass of mankind this is the chief function of 'Monday Populars,' 'Beethoven Societies,' and 'Musical Unions,' and it is pleasant to know that whatever may be the future of the art, its resources for this purpose at least are practically inexhaustible.

R. B. L.

## MUSICAL NOTES.

LACK of space excluded last week our 'note' of the first concert of Mr. Leslie's choir, which took place on the 9th inst. It must now suffice to say that the choir appeared in good force (about 100 voices), and that the crowded state of the hall showed that the public are no more weary of listening to its delightful singing of delightful music than Mr. Leslie is of keeping the singers up to their old standard of vocal finish. A sacred concert is announced to be held in Lent (30th of March), which ought to be unusually interesting. The choir is to sing an eight-part anthem, by Dr. Bennett, and some new compositions by Mr. Smart and Mr. Leslie, besides Mendelssohn's 'Hear my Prayer,' and part of a mass of Gounod.

MISS EDITH WYNN, whom we do not recollect hearing in London for some little time past, appeared at the Monday Popular Concert of this week. Her singing in the 'Ave Maria' adapted from Bach by M. Gounod, and in a popular setting of Tennyson's 'Sweet and low,' was extremely charming. It is pleasant to be able to note an advance so decided as this young singer is making. Already she has acquired a degree of finish such that there are few singers to whom we listen with more entire satisfaction. Mozart's superb quintet in G minor (known so well for its 'muted' slow movement and charming finale), was the leading feature in the programme. Another interesting item was a violin solo by Herr Straus, Tartini's 'Didone Abbandonata.' MM. Joachim and Piatti are announced to appear at the first morning performance on Saturday, March 11th.

At the Beethoven Society's Concert of this day week at Willis's Rooms, one of the late quartets of Beethoven (that in C sharp minor) was to have been played, but Mr. Collins, the violoncellist, being kept away by illness, one of the early set of six was substituted. Madame Sherrington and Signor Garcia were the vocalists. The lady's singing of the 'Ave Maria' of Cherubini, was one of the pleasantest points of the concert. Mr. Otto

Goldschmidt's pianoforte playing was not up to the high standard of excellence usually maintained at these concerts.

M. DAVID's new opera of 'Saphir' is announced to be produced at the 'Opéra-Comique' of Paris on Thursday next. The Zauberslöte is on the bills of the Théâtre-Lyrique, to be set, we have no doubt, in an adaptation which will resemble as little as possible the travesty which so long disgraced the French stage under the title 'Les Mystères d'Isis.'

THE names of several singers are mentioned in foreign papers as having been engaged by Mr. Gye for his coming opera season. Among them are the Signora Galetti, who has been making some stir Italy as a soprano, and a tenor, by name Pancani.

MR. FRANKLIN TAYLOR made his debut as a pianist on Saturday last, at the Crystal Palace. He played a concerto in F minor, by Herr F. Hiller, the well-known concert-master of Cologne and friend of Mendelssohn. His execution of this piece gave evidence of a thorough command of the instrument and of the possession, among other merits, of a clear and articulate touch. Mr. Taylor may be congratulated on having made a distinctly favourable impression. The concert began with a delightful little symphony of Mozart, an abbreviation of one of his many 'serenades,' in D (written for a marriage festival in Salzburg in 1781), and ended with Mendelssohn's overture in C, the one in the possession of the Philharmonic Society, and played at one of their concerts last year.

THAT admirable artist Signor Bottesini appeared at the last of Mr. Hallé's concerts in the Free Trade Hall at Manchester. He delighted his audience by making his double bass sing Beethoven's 'Adelaide.'

DR. S. AUSTIN PEARCE gave a 'First Matinée' on Thursday last at the Music Hall in Store Street.

## MUSIC FOR NEXT WEEK.

FEBRUARY 27 to MARCH 4.

MONDAY.—Popular Concert, St. James's Hall, 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY.—Mr. Glover's Evening Concert, Drury Lane Theatre.

FRIDAY.—First Great Choral Meeting of the Handel Festival Choral, at Exeter Hall, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY.—Crystal Palace Orchestral Concert, 3 p.m.

OPERAS.—Her Majesty's (English): 'Lara.' Covent Garden (English): 'The River Sprite,' with the Pantomime.

## THE DRAMA.

THE national drama, thereby meaning the old five-act, dissertational, poetic, and rhetorical plays, is still the substantial theatrical provender which the English people, when collected in their different classes at such a theatre as Drury Lane, desiderate and admire. It is a mixture of rhetoric, sometimes verging to bombast, of morality which sometimes a very refined mind might revolt from, with a knowledge of the world sufficient to be sarcastic, and with a geniality which redeems it from heartlessness. It is only, however, in very mixed audiences, where every portion of the community that forms our social system can be represented, that it is thoroughly appreciated. At other theatres than the very large ones, a class kind of performance succeeds best. Smart intellectual performances for small portions of the educated, and the sensational drama for the people, although this latter class in its turn draws all to it. The purely sentimental and the purely burlesque have each their own spheres. We were led into these reflections on Monday evening by contemplating the large audience assembled at Drury Lane Theatre to witness the performance of Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton's play of 'Richelieu.' The attraction in these cases may be very much aided by the acting of the principal character; and Mr. Phelps' personation of the political Cardinal is one of his best performances. He is always good when he has to delineate minute traits of character or specialties, such as age or energy or shrewdness. The Cardinal, as portrayed by Sir Edward, is an imaginary character, and one which hardly any French dramatist would have drawn. It is not so much that the conspiracy which forms the plot of the drama is an imaginary one, as that the character of Richelieu is itself fictitious. The author could indeed justify himself by many anecdotes recorded of Richelieu. He certainly wrote plays which the people damned, and he rewarded the few who praised them. He certainly was vain of his personal prowess at the siege of Rochelle, and might very well have failed to wield his double-handed sword in his old age. He most undoubtedly was wondrously acute in scenting out the intrigues and conspiracies

of his numerous antagonists. He was ready enough to use the power of the Church when it suited his policy, and to sneer at religion when he had a contempt to express against a priest. All this and much more we know he did; but it is not the mere representing such things that will make an historical character. They tell very well on the stage, but they hardly flow naturally out of the character; and they seem, like the costume, to be rather put upon the person than to spring spontaneously from him. Indeed, all through the character, Richelieu is a great deal more demonstrative and conscious than we can imagine the subtle statesman to have been. The vehemence of three hours exhausts Mr. Phelps to personate, and would very soon have killed off the careworn old politician. It is a defect of all the author's characters that they seem consciously playing a part; and Richelieu, as portrayed by Sir Lytton, is not only the Cardinal, but the Cardinal with a sense of what he was conceived to be two hundred years after his death. As a stage character it is very good, as an historical one it is weak and tawdry. General reflections are the fashion in history and in the high drama; but then they should not be made by the personage as reflections on himself, but on the occurrences of life and those around him. No writer is so full of reflection as Shakespeare, yet no one is so dramatic. The mighty sayings of Bolingbroke or Lear are the spontaneous utterances of great minds strung into expression, and wrenched into a general feeling by potent circumstances. They are not the garnish of the mere rhetorical writer superadded to produce a theatrical effect. But, notwithstanding the artificiality of the character of Richelieu, it produces great theatric effect. Mixed assemblies indulge their judgments much less than their feelings; and as long as a character is vehement with an apparent naturalness of expression, they seek for no deeper truth. To the more experienced mind the excessive artificiality is a painful error; and it runs throughout the play. The system of effects is never disguised, and thus no genuine interest can be raised in those who clearly see the mechanism which is to produce them. This artificiality, cleverly as it is applied, deprives all this dramatist's plays of that sense of vitality which is produced by the exercise of real dramatic art.

The audience, however, on Monday night made no such distinctions, and heartily interested themselves in the old politician, and rejoiced at his triumph over his adversaries as much as if they had a personal interest in them. Mr. Phelps certainly gives great actuality to the portrait, and is most effective in the quiet and unemotional part of the character; giving the lesser or under action and emotion with such truth that it gives a strong appearance of reality to all parts of the delineation. The play is well produced and played, the acting of Mr. Marston as Baradas, of Mr. Walter Lacy as the gluttonous fop, of Mr. E. Phelps as De Mauprat, of Mrs. Vezin as Julie, and of Miss Helen Howard as Marion de Lorme, being thoroughly efficient.

At the Haymarket on Monday a very slight alteration was made in the performances by the playing as the first piece and almost to empty benches as far as the boxes were concerned, the old farce of 'A Day after the Wedding.' This was done to enable a lady to appear, who was announced as Miss Blanche Aylmer, in the part of Lady Elizabeth Free love. It is one of those experiments and tamperings with the patience of an audience we had hoped had passed away. The lady, although not a novice in life, is quite a novice in theatrical affairs, and it can only be to enable her to announce herself in the provinces as of a London theatre that so immature an appearance could have been made. It is not quite right that those who pay their money should be treated to such fare. Mr. Sothorn holds on his triumphant career as Lord Dundreary Married and David Garrick.

At the Adelphi, the frequenters must be delighted at the return of Mr. Webster and Mrs. Stirling, two genuine artists, whom it is always delightful to see, especially in so capital a little comedy as that of 'Masks and Faces.'

The last nights of the 'Hidden Hand' are announced at the Olympic, and a new play is promised.

At Drury Lane, Miss Faucit will renew her engagement on Monday week, the 6th March, when she will appear in 'Cymbeline.' The cast of this play will be modified, Mr. Anderson playing Iachimo in place of Mr. Creswick. Mr. Walter Montgomery is also engaged, and will appear as Orlando to Miss Faucit's Rosalind, the play of 'As You Like It,' being announced for Thursday, the 10th of March.



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